

Senate Teaching and Learning Committee Minutes

Thursday, September 10th, 2026

UCC 308

1. Attendees:

- a. Jenna Harte, Susan Hall Webb, Crystal Shelnutt, Mark Schoon, Tijan Drammeh, Raihan Ahmed, Brad Prince, Kim Crawford, David Haase, Mandi Campbell

Review of Committee's Mission:

Purpose: to provide advice, review and recommend policy and procedures for all matters related to pedagogy, including, but not limited to: teaching, learning, assessment, inclusion, diversity, equity, accessibility, and any technology impacting the academic mission. The committee serves in a facilitative and advisory capacity to the Provost, the Chief Information Officer, Director of the Institute for Faculty Excellence, Director of UWG Online, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment, and other administrative leaders as appropriate to fulfill its purpose. It is recommended that members of this committee be invited to serve on related committees across campus, e.g., technology fees committee, assessment committees, and any committees dealing with the QEP or SACSCOC.

TOPIC: Training for Online Teaching

- b. Dr. Preston has asked this committee to consider the following questions:
 - i. Should faculty who teach online be required to complete training that supports effective online instruction?
 - ii. If so, what should this training look like? If not, why not?

Discussion:

- **Overall support of such an initiative with recommendations:**
 - Support because other intuitions require such trainings, and it would boost UWG in the US World and News Report
 - Still, we should consider: What identified issues exist that this training will speak to? How do we ensure that trainings lead to better course design?
 - Questions:
 - Could the training be completed con-currently with the first year of teaching online?
 - Question: Can AI tools help with Quality Assurance?
 - Question: How can Momentum U help us?

- Might this initiative be tied to and bolstered by efforts toward accessibility?
- QM option is cost prohibitive (\$1k per faculty member plus additional fees to approve courses)
 - Similar programming is offered at GSU and thus UWG could design a similar pathway, but IFE would need more resources to offer these trainings
 - Could we design a tiered system—one version digging into usability and design of course content and tier two focused on best practices in pedagogy?
 - Would we design an initial training for new faculty and a refresher for faculty who already teach online?
- We would need to consider individual departmental goals and needs, a liaison for a department would be helpful
 - Such liaisons would need to be compensated with time or stipend, or both, depending on the size of department, number of sections to review, etc.
 - Liaisons would contribute in the spirit of collaboration, collegiality, and continuous improvement.
- While IFE and liaisons could make recommendations, it would need to be up to the chair and dean in annual evaluations to hold faculty accountable for the recommended changes.
- **Recommendation: Could we create an MOU (perhaps inspired by eCore or others) that sets expectations for online instruction?**

TOPIC: Committee Goals:

Considering our mission, what are some larger goals you hope this committee may achieve in the next year?

- **Ethical AI Use:** Supporting faculty in designing transparent AI policy for students
 - Follow-up on Office of Community Standards AI policy
- **Classroom Tech:** Better communicate with ITS to discuss classroom needs
 - Reassess current survey
 - ITS needs feedback on digital research environments
- **Career Connectedness:** Contribute QEP's mission to incorporate career readiness in courses and curriculum

Minutes approved 10/1

LOOKING AHEAD: Common Course Components:

- c. In our next meeting, we will discuss the Nav Bar in CourseDen
 - i. It would be valuable to hear from colleagues about their vision for a "dream" navigation bar. We will continue exploring these ideas during our next meeting.