

Illinois IDEA HS Faculty Team Meeting

NOTES - July 11, 2008

Participants

Moussa Ayyash	CSU	Mary Pritchard	NIU
Sylvia Gist	CSU	Peggy Wilken	SIU-C
Steve Shih	GSU	Fetene Gebrewold	WIU
Cara Rabe-Hemp	ISU	Bill McCamey	WIU
Marilyn Bellert	NIU	Jamie Johnson	WIU
Jim Leon	NIU	Steve Reinhard	WIU
Ellen Parham, Alliance Coordinator		Bob Fisher, Alliance Evaluator	

Update from Grant Steering Committee

- Grant for 3rd year was funded but is uncertain due to the Governor's veto. The Grant Steering Committee is working on a budget for independent operations.
- Status of RFP for courses. New RFP has been posted. Due date is early September. Samples of funded proposals will be posted on website. Login- homeland; PW - security
- Status of Alliance courses. Initial course offerings were reviewed in 2007 for alignment with Alliance learning objectives and "grandfathered" into the schedule. Another six online courses are in development and being funded by the Alliance. Additional courses submitted by member institutions will be reviewed rubric by the proposal review team using the RFP's rubric. If approved, the courses may be offered through the Alliance.
- Review of course content. Federal guidelines should be followed to ensure that courses do not include subjects that present dangers identified by CDC, NSA, and FBI. The Alliance should consider adding a check box to the RFP agreeing that course content will not include topics or activities that might compromise public safety.
- Assessment. Student learning outcomes developed by the Faculty Team will be assessed using artifacts submitted by instructors of Alliance courses. Teaching effectiveness will be evaluated using teaching institution's process.

Intellectual property policy is still in development.

Development of Homeland Security certificates at member institutions

In 2005, a work group called by IBHE developed models for homeland security certificate programs. Undergraduate and graduate level models were approved by the state's academic officers with specific curriculum components left to local institutions. Thus, an expedited process exists for HS certificates, which do not need additional approval by IBHE.

Faculty members discussed the development of 18-hour Alliance certificates that could be approved and granted by each individual institution. Members may wish to advertise the endorsement of the Alliance and/or of government agencies. For instance, the Alliance might solicit Illinois Department of Homeland Security certificates for Alliance students who complete an approved program of study. Extensive funding is available from federal agencies interested in homeland security education.

Shorter-term certificates are already offered by members. Students in WIU fire science courses receive a federal certificate; after four to six courses, students receive a Fire Academy certificate useful for professional advancement. The information about these certificates needs to be added to marketing for the fire science courses numbered 81, 82, 83,84, 85, 86, and 331. Check catalogue for more information. NIU's CSCI 469 prepares students for the CISSP certificate examination. GSU's 580 and 581 are part of a federal Homeland Security certificate.

In developing homeland security certificates, Hal Marchand (WIU) suggested looking at what kinds of education might have helped in addressing this summer's disasters across the country. Tracks discussed include urban and rural homeland security, cyber security, general homeland security, corporate safety, public safety, risk assessment, and homeland security for citizens. Students would take at least two core courses and four topical courses within an area. Potential certificate topics:

- Corporate Safety
Business interruption, communications, cyber security, safety management, manufacturing and industrial safety, financial security, OSHA
- Public Health and Safety
Individuals and families basic survival, P-12 and higher ed campuses, special needs, food and agriculture, law enforcement, transportation, emergency healthcare, food safety, agricultural inspection, fire protection, industrial safety, radiological hazards; community health, HIPPA, environmental, mental and emotional stability, financial security, radiological and nuclear hazards, energy sources, environmental issues
- Cyber Security – eight courses; need a HIPPA-related course
- Risk Assessment – financial security, radiological and nuclear hazards, energy resources
- Disaster Management (including Fire Science)

Potential Core courses for Alliance homeland security certificates – Take at least 2.

Ruth Williams recommended that this list include not more than 2 or 3 courses that are provide knowledge essential to all certificates.

- NIU UNIV 310/510 Foundations of Homeland Security
- WIU LEJA 331 Introduction to Homeland Security
- ISU Community Readiness: Communications during Crisis

NIU, GSU, ISU IT Security
ISU/SIU Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism
NIU Crisis Intervention for the Helping Professions
NIU Geo-spatial Dimensions of Homeland Security
WIU Political and Legal Foundations of Fire Protection

Identification of needed courses

- Food safety
- Agricultural inspection
- Legal and ethical issues
- Emergency medical response
- Disaster management response *Mary – this is covered in UNIV 310 and is one of the Alliance learning outcomes. We track which courses include disaster management, don't we? Seems like too general a topic for one course.*

Status of course approval and delivery at member institutions

NIU, WIU, and GSU are offering courses in Fall 08. WIU is enrolling its students in Alliance courses, and NIU intends to do so in Fall 08. Other members are deciding which courses to offer and how to manage approvals and listings. Campus coordinators need talking points on why department chairs should participate. Coordinators may need other, more extensive training and support. There appears to be a need for stronger Board member advocacy for Alliance courses. Further, there is an ongoing need to provide orientation for staff at member institutions due to continual turnover.

Faculty members at some institutions see the Alliance courses as competition, and others object to the online format, which is not institutionalized on their campuses. About half of the Alliance institutions do not allow undergraduate certificates, but might allow students to minor in a subject such as homeland security. Ruth Williams recommended surveying the market to see where there are homeland security niches and what the comparative costs are. The Alliance has a budget for market research.

Additional discussion centered on master's or doctoral degrees in homeland security that would offer tracks for various professions.

Update on assessment of Alliance curricular offerings and evaluation and continuous improvement of courses

Alliance assessments will show alignment and achievement of student learning outcomes. Some revision of course objectives is needed, so that they are more measurable and reflective of Bloom's taxonomy. Each course instructor will receive assistance in developing the course assessment plan. They will then be asked to supply a sample of artifacts to show students' learning. Instructors will be invited for training and support.

Alliance rubrics for assessment of learning objectives were reviewed and revised.

Report back from campuses on homework from previous meetings

To be posted on the IDEA HS website: Tools related to netiquette from WIU; plagiarism; orientation; student and computer readiness for online courses.

Tasks for next meeting

- Add list of priorities for courses needed to the RFP
- Review and further develop proposals for certificates
- Assist campus coordinators in finding homes for courses
- Conduct a marketing survey of homeland security education niches
- Find link to netiquette materials from WIU; post on website tools on netiquette, plagiarism, orientation, student and computer readiness
- Post spring 09 syllabi on the IDEA HS website
- Apply RFP rubric to existing courses that members wish to add to the Alliance schedule
- Distribute notes from this meeting
- Compile and distribute revised assessment rubrics

Meeting schedule

September 12 at ISU. Other possibilities: November and February