

Notes of the Online Fire Meeting – 9/24/2009

Present: Tina Aguirre, Sara Wheat, Laura Hartsock, Dan Coffman, Dennis Wiskus, David Senior, Michael Heumann, Martha Garcia, Alfredo Estrada, Jr.

Areas Discussed:

1. Tina discussed the College's financial position and said FTES will be limited upcoming semesters. This will affect course offerings although we don't know how much. As a result, fall enrollment cap had to be limited to 50 for these courses. Nursing is offering 3 courses for Winter 2010.
2. David stated enrollment counts are different for fall and spring due to fall being fire season.
3. Dan stated the fall online classes got a late start which may have affected enrollment. Approximate student counts include 67 in Fire 100, 60-70 in Fire 103 and 108, and 18 in Fire 104. Two Fire 104 classes were offered which may count for the low enrollment in each.
4. Instructors said they would like to continue offering online courses at IVC and preferably see all 6 core classes offered every semester. They feel these courses will set the pace to market future classes at IVC.
5. Alfredo shared that his experience in the Academy shows that older generation students do well online but has concerns for younger students who are not familiar with the process. Dan said he can place the test and lecture part of the Academy online and give students the experience. He said he's willing to help get this started. Dennis added that online allows for feedback and test questions can be scrambled where each student has a different test. Alfredo said IVC is still working on being accredited by the State.
6. Increasing units in hydraulics in the Academy was also discussed, and David said he has the curriculum he can send to Alfredo. He said Allen Hancock College offers all fire courses online except for the Academy, and part of the Academy is online.

Action Items:

1. Michael will evaluate the online courses and send the information to instructors. He said downloading the information to spring will not be difficult on Etudes.
2. Martha Garcia will work with instructors and Alfredo to update the course outlines and include offering online. She is also available to assist students with remedial classes that will prepare them for the degree.
3. Dennis said he is available to come to IVC and conduct a face-to-face orientation with students on how to log on to Etudes and class information.
4. Dan said he is available to attend advisory meetings and answer questions regarding classes.
5. Alfredo will discuss information with Fred and the Advisory committee.