

Faculty Development and Centers for Teaching & Learning

Case Study and Lessons Learned: Florida State

Joseph S. Clark,
Associate in Online Course Design
Center for Teaching and Learning
The Florida State University

Florida State University

- λ 40,000 students
- λ 10 colleges, 270 degree areas in arts, humanities, sciences
- λ Founded in 1800s
- λ Regular “churn” in faculty, student populations, and instructional methods (especially technology!)

FSU

Center for Teaching & Learning

- λ So named since about 2000
- λ Origins in
 - Distance learning
 - Instructional technology
 - “Remedial” faculty development
- λ Currently has director and 6 consultants

FSU CTL Mission

- λ The Center for Teaching and Learning collaborates with faculty and teaching assistants at Florida State University to promote, support, and sustain their effective and appropriate use of educational and communications technologies and evidence-based instructional principles and strategies.

FSU CTL Strengths

- λ Develop new online courses and degree programs
- λ 36 courses in 2009-2010, e.g.
 - Economics
 - Geography
 - Communication Disorders
 - Sociology
 - Ed Leadership
 - Emergency Management

FSU CTL Strengths

- λ Support all faculty through consultations and workshops:
 - Departmental liaisons
 - Ad-hoc “walk-in” and ongoing consultations
 - Funded and unfunded workshops
 - λ 200+ participants in Blackboard workshops
 - λ Custom workshops: civility, critical thinking, Second Life
 - λ Summer: 92 participants in three workshops on podcasting, digital audio, screen capture, social bookmarking
 - λ Fall kickoff conference, Teaching Excellence Series

FSU CTL Strengths

- λ Support all faculty through online resources:
 - TA supervisor handbook
 - Online Mentor training
 - Tutor training materials (≈ hours online)
 - “Instruction at FSU”
 - CTL website and content collection

FSU CTL Strengths

- λ The “30% List” and others
- λ Classroom observations & tapings
 - 30 in 2009
- λ Teaching Assessment by Students (TABS)
 - Available in F2F and online versions
 - Accessed 1700 times online
 - Administered to hundreds of students

FSU CTL Strengths

- λ Program for Instructional Excellence
 - Annual conference (2009: 470 TAs from 46 depts)
 - Certification (attendance + report)
 - PIE Associates recommended by depts
 - Outstanding Teaching Associates:
 - λ 2009: 100+ nominations, 50 portfolios, 10 winners
 - Celebration of Graduate Student Excellence
- λ PIE is moving to Graduate Studies Office 2011

Benefits to FSU:

- λ Increased outreach via quality online learning
- λ Increased efficiency of large-classroom instruction
- λ Reduced number of underperforming teachers
- λ Faculty who are current and informed
- λ Instructional experiences for Tas
- λ Recognition of quality instruction
- λ Networking across state, region, and beyond

Lessons Learned:

- λ Motivating faculty to:
 - Enhance teaching skills
 - Stay abreast of instructional technology
- λ Critical stakeholders: administration, faculty senate, unions
- λ Buyouts and funded workshops
- λ Online mentors supported by DL fee
- λ CTL consultants as teaching peers

Florida Faculty Development Consortium

Targeting special audiences: adjuncts, new faculty, TAs, etc.

Focus on SoTL; applicability at all types of FL institutions

Sharing via Publications/Output

Obtain funding

Advocacy

Events

<http://ffdc.fctl.ucf.edu/index.html>