

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
LEARNING TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Academic Quality and Workforce Division
1200 E. Anderson Lane, Austin, Texas 78752

November 1, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Members present: Justin Louder- Chair, Patrick Pluscht- Co-chair, Ken Craver, Julie Delello (via phone), Vicki Freeman (via phone), Mark Garcia, Rolando Garcia (via phone), Mary Gentry, Michelle Giles, Daniel Gonzalez, Robert Greene, Joyce Langenegger, Jacqueline Mok, Carlos Morales, Pamela Morgan (via phone), Lynda Murphy, Timothy Snyder, Yun Wan, Erin Warham

Members absent: Elizabeth Rodriguez, Glynnis Gains, Ruth Chisum, Charlene Stubblefield, Jose Aguilar

Staff present: Andrew Lofters, Jessica Acton, James Goeman

Summary Notes

1. Welcome, introductions, and call to order – Dr. Justin Louder, LTAC Chair

Dr. Louder called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

2. Consideration of summary notes from the August 9, 2019 meeting – Dr. Louder

A motion was made to accept the summary notes from the August 9, 2019 meeting by Dr. Jacqueline Mok and was seconded by Mr. Mark Garcia. The motion was approved unanimously, and the minutes for the August 9 meeting were accepted as submitted.

3. Discussion of Texas Woman's University's adherence to the THECB's distance education policy in the delivery of its existing Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree with a major in Health Studies – Doctoral Proposal Subcommittee Members/Institutional Representatives

Dr. Mok provided a brief description of the request from Texas Woman's University to offer the existing PhD in Health Studies via a hybrid distance education model. Representatives from Texas Woman's University were on the phone bridge and presented additional information to support the proposed change in delivery modality. Dr. Mok complimented Texas Woman's University for providing a clear outline that indicated how each course would be delivered.

Dr. Louder asked Texas Woman's University to describe the difference between Google Classroom and Canvas and describe how the institution is using each resource. The institution explained that Canvas is the LMS that also provides a virtual collaborative space for students while Google Classroom is used by some professors and instructors to exchange documents.

Dr. Lynda Murphy recused herself from the vote.

4. Consideration of recommendation regarding Texas Woman's University's adherence to the THECB's distance education policy, subject to the THECB review and analysis, in the delivery of its existing Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree with a major in Health Studies – Dr. Louder

Dr. Louder clarified that the proposal was coming to the full LTAC with a recommendation from the subcommittee to approve the distance delivery of the existing PhD program. Dr. Mok noted that Dr. Murphy recused herself from the subcommittee conversation. The motion was seconded by Dr. Vicki Freeman. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion of The University of Texas at Tyler's adherence to the THECB's distance education policy in the online delivery of the proposed Doctor of Education (EdD) degree with a major in School Improvement – Doctoral Proposal Subcommittee Members/Institutional Representatives

Dr. Mok provided a brief description of the request from The University of Texas at Tyler to offer an EdD in School Improvement online. Dr. Wesley Hickey was present and provided a brief overview of the proposed program. Dr. Mok asked Dr. Hickey to confirm if the program, while delivered online, would also require some face-to-face components. Dr. Hickey confirmed that students would come to campus for summer seminars. There were no questions or comments from the subcommittee or LTAC. Dr. Mok made a motion on behalf of the subcommittee to approve the proposal.

6. Consideration of recommendation regarding The University of Texas at Tyler's adherence to the THECB's distance education policy, subject to the THECB review and analysis, in the online delivery of the proposed EdD degree with a major in School Improvement – Dr. Louder

The motion to approve was seconded by Dr. Freeman. The motion passed unanimously.

7. THECB Updates – Dr. Andrew Lofters

- a. Open Educational Resources Grant Program: Dr. Andrew Lofters provided an overview and updates regarding the OER grant program. During the overview, Dr. Mok asked if the \$212,049 in funding was for each year of the biennium or the entire biennium. Dr. Lofters clarified the funds were for the entire biennium. She also asked if the grant criteria or review process are expected to change. Dr. Lofters stated the criteria were not slated to change.

Dr. Lofters provided information on the OER repository. Dr. Louder inquired about responsibility for managing the repository. Dr. James Goeman responded that the responsibility for management of the repository has not yet been determined and will depend on numerous factors. Dr. Carlos Morales inquired about the number of expected resources in the OER repository. Dr. Goeman responded that the number of available resources is dependent upon faculty and institutions as well as grant funding. Dr. Morales asked about strategies for marketing the OER repository. Dr. Goeman responded that THECB would use the agency website and a memorandum to announce the repository. Any marketing would be dependent upon grant funds.

- b. Distance Education Component of Graduate Program Review: Dr. Lofters provided information regarding graduate program reviews and described the rationale for incorporating an assessment of online components. Dr. Goeman gave some additional information regarding the new criteria for the review of graduate programs. Dr. Mok

asked if the graduate program reviews include the review of both master's and doctoral programs. Dr. Goeman affirmed.

Dr. Louder requested a discussion of the distance education rules and how it will impact SARA institutions at the next LTAC meeting. There was also some discussion regarding the newly adopted PGP document. Dr. Lofters will provide an update at the next LTAC meeting. Dr. Louder asked the minutes to reflect LTAC's thanks to Dr. Michelle Singh on her work with updating the PGP document.

8. Discussion of hybrid/blended degree programs – Dr. Louder/Dr. Andrew Lofters

Dr. Lofters provided data on the number of online and hybrid bachelor's programs offered in Texas. The committee engaged in discussion regarding institutional policies and processes for classifying undergraduate programs as online and/or hybrid.

9. Workgroup breakout sessions – Dr. Louder

The THECB was closed due to the city shutting off water to the building. As a result, the LTAC was unable to breakout into workgroups. Each workgroup chair provided the new LTAC members with a brief overview of the roles and responsibilities of their respective workgroup. The new members were asked to serve on at least one workgroup and to notify Dr. Lofters of their selection.

10. Discussion of future agenda items and meeting dates – Dr. Louder

Future Agenda Items:
THECB Updates (OER, SARA/Distance Education Rules)
Workgroup Sessions
Database Demonstration
PGP Distribution Update

Next Meetings:
February 7, 2020 (tentative)

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.