Instructional Continuity Workgroup Meeting
September 16th, 2021

Attendance

Absent: Kevin Vaughn, Lucille Chia, Nichi Yes, Philip Brisk, Rich Carpiano, Richard Edwards, Robin Hungerford, Shaun Bowler, Stefano Vidussi, Subramanian Balachander

Meeting Minutes

Welcome (Liz Watkins)
No strict agenda today. Let’s hear some updates on our Modality change and then open to other discussion items.

Updates on Modality Change Rule (aka “Compassionate Clause”)
- SPP: 2 requests, one faculty member and one lecturer.
- GSOE: 7 requests, submitted last night
- Business: 5 requests, submitted yesterday
- CNAS: 40-50 requests, 10 courses total. They are lecture seminars and their discussion sessions.
- BCOE: 20 or so requests
- CHASS: 25-28 requests, pending final number.

How was this received by faculty?
Largely, no concerns have been expressed across the board.

How was this received by students?
No major concerns yet, but will let us know if anything pops up on social media.

Any other issues or notes from across campus about this decision?
Reminder that the registrar’s office will make the modality changes in banner but it won’t be communicated to the students unless they log in to check their course modality. Colleges or instructors need to reach out to their students.
- Can deans assume that if they approved the requests, they are “final approved”?
  o Yes. Instructors should go ahead and inform their students.
- What is the best way to inform students? Canvas?
  o Canvas and email – probably best to do both.
- If some of the courses are moved out of RISE rooms but students still want to attend on-campus, can we set up those rooms to house students taking remote courses?
  o Likely. Send Jennifer an email and XCITE will follow up.

Other Questions & Discussion Items
- If a room needs cleaning, how will an instructor be notified?
  o By facilities and/or COVID Management depending. COVID Management will notify the instructor of the class with the incidence right away. The classes after or around that are taking place in the same place would know about it through facilities’ notification.
- Will UNIT 18 lecturers will have space provided by the department chairs?
  o Deans, communicate that you need flexibility for classroom and shared office space; this can all be handled at the department level.
- The FAQs on the website are too difficult to navigate and the website is hard to read.
  o We will work on reorganizing the FAQs into something more accessible.
  o The webpage design/theme is designated by UCOMM in line with UCR branding. This can be an offline discussion with our UCOMM contact, John Warren.
- Masks just in class? Or all public spaces? What about outdoors?
  o Masks are required in all indoor spaces on campus and we’d recommend them whenever you’re in a large group.
- Is a negative COVID test required to come back after a symptomatic leave (i.e. missing a few days because of the sniffles?)
  o No. This has been decided by COVID Management.

Transitioning this Workgroup and Winter Quarter.
We will be transitioning the work of this group back to where it belongs, under the Academic Senate. This group doesn’t have any more meetings scheduled and we’re not going to add anymore. If we need to add another, we will, but things are moving as expected so far.

Winter: We can’t decide about Winter until we have information about what we are comfortable this fall. Deciding what is safe/right for our campus will still come from health and safety. Senate will just have a position on what flexibility instructors should be allowed and establish a set of principles.

Closing
Our focus now is on the day to day, making sure students, instructors, and staff are keeping safe and healthy and building a community of care. Goes a long way to make everyone feel excited to be on campus.