

Distance Education Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

2:00 p.m.

- **Online Tutoring** – UpSwing is an alternative to Smarthinking, and the per hour cost is less at \$23 compared to \$32 per hour with Smarthinking. A pilot for spring semester will be \$3,000.
 - **Note:** *Student Support Services staff were invited to this meeting to discuss UpSwing because they have prior experience with online tutoring.*
- **Stipends** - I have money in my budget for stipends for course development. Committee agreed that it would be a good idea to fund course redesigns since we have made changes to our distance education course requirements.
- **Book Fee** – We are still considering the book fee model where students would pay for the Ebook version of the textbook along with tuition and have access to it in Moodle on day one of class. We are still working with Follett to have this in place by summer for our online biology, psychology, history, and wellness courses.
- **Training** - When I surveyed faculty back in the spring, the majority said that they prefer to have the required training online, but Heather suggested that a couple of days be set aside for training. In order to meet SACS training requirements, the online training is the best option as far as making sure everyone completes the same training, but we are open to professional development days as well.
- **Test Proctoring** - An email was sent out asking for more volunteers to use it for spring classes.
- **Smarter Services** demo was last week. As a reminder, the cost for that is \$3,000. They did provide a recording of that, so just watch it when you have time.

Meeting Attendance: Debbie Benson, Dr. Heather Johnson, Mark Lee, Ann Lyndon, Chenee McRae, Leslie Tomlinson