Our first meeting of the academic year was held at the Rock Creek TLC.


Stephanie Yorba, who started this task force last year, has taken on additional responsibilities in other areas and will not continue as chair. Robin Shapiro will chair the task force for the rest of the year.

We discussed some of the progress made last year, and whether we should continue to work as 4 teams (Creating a culture of integrity, the Academic Integrity violation process, AI issues in Distance Learning, and Plagiarism Detection tools). After some discussion, and with input from Sylvia Gray, Loraine Schmitt, and others, we decided to ask the Distance Learning Faculty Advisory Council to advise us on academic integrity issues specific to the online environment, and on best practices for online and hybrid classes.

We agreed to continue the other three teams. We also agreed that we need a good way to work together asynchronously, and a place to share ideas, information, links, articles, etc.

Team priorities:

Culture:
Survey faculty and students to understand the current culture at PCC.
Find out how many Academic Dishonesty forms have been used in recent years.
Share available research on developing a culture of integrity.
Educate faculty and staff about the Academic Dishonesty process.
Based on the student survey, develop recommendations about partnering with ASPCC and other student groups to foster academic integrity.
Specific recommendations discussed 10/3 include:

- communicating clear expectations
- tips to prevent problems
- student-driven change
- guiding at-risk students to help
- clarifying rules specific to disciplines (e.g., no using Google Translate on your Spanish homework)

Process:
Use survey results to determine what’s working and what isn’t.
Develop recommendations for form improvement and placement.
With the Culture team, investigate faculty fears of retaliation.
Develop process improvement recommendations.
Specific recommendations discussed 10/3 include:
- providing “first-offender” education
- maintaining a database of cases so that an instructor could determine whether a student had previously violated academic integrity policies
- clear information about what happens after a form is submitted
- an education push like the Student of Concern form a couple of years ago

Tools:
Investigate a variety of tools for detection and education
Find out what solutions peer institutions are using

For Fall term, we are concentrating on culture and process.

AITF action items:
for SAC day: we’ll ask Kendra to send an email to all SAC chairs, asking them to solicit responses to two questions:
- In your discipline, what constitutes cheating? (For example, in foreign language classes, use of an online translation service is considered cheating.)
- What is your biggest concern with regard to academic integrity?

By Thanksgiving, we’ll send out a survey to all faculty asking about their experience with academic integrity violations and the process for dealing with such violations at PCC. Rachel and Felita have volunteered to draft and administer the survey.

As soon as possible, we need a place to keep our meeting notes and team notes, share articles and links, and maintain a timeline. Robin will work on getting a Spaces page for the task force.

We will meet in December, date, time, and location to be determined.