Technical College System of Georgia

Economics Best Practices Sharing Session

April 8, 2020

Attendees:

1. Robert Rigney-Georgia Piedmont Technical College,
2. Emmanuel Welbeck Augusta Technical College,
3. Sam Kwachie West Georgia Technical College,
4. DH,
5. Michelle Likins,
6. Jodie Vangrove,
7. Elham Rohanie Gwinnett Technical College,
8. Coni Janovaki Savanah Technical College,
9. Nathalie Dames TCSG

Points of Discussion:

The purpose of this meeting was to address the needs of general education faculty in light of the recent quick transition to virtual learning for all course. The following questions were presented during the meeting:

1. What have you had to change to accommodate online instruction?
2. What suggestions do you have for your peers?
3. Where do you need assistance?

Discussion Notes:

- All present did not report any issues with moving into the online format in response to the pandemic.
- Some colleges already had online and/or hybrid courses so the move to online was fairly simple.
- Most of the college used Blackboard as the platform of the courses. They are mainly using Blackboard collaborate to facility the lecture component of their courses. Still learning to use the Blackboard Collaborate platform.
- There were no questions or issues directly related to the transition at this time.
- There was a question posed about students needing tutoring and the possibility of adding an additional lab component to their courses. A suggestion was made to look into adding tutoring as a component of their grade as opposed to adding a credit hour lab for tutoring. Online tutoring services were suggested to meet the need of finding qualified tutors for the desired economic courses. The following sites used by other institutions were provided. Chegg, Upswing, and Smarthinking.
- Recommendations were made to use the OER courses as well. The OER resources were noted as providing consistency for instructors teaching the courses. This site https://gvtc.tcsg.edu/oer/Tracker provides the list of colleges within TCSG that are currently using OER resources.
- The list serve was recommended as a place to continue to share best practices and to ask for help.