

INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE (IFCC)

BIOLOGY MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Time: 10:00 am-03:00pm

Location: Central Georgia Technical College, Virtual via WebEX

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Nathalie Dames/ Dr. Maloof

Recorder: Dr. Karen Burke

Attendees: Lopa Agarwal, Sadia Ajothda, Kayla Allen-Taylor, Ejinkonye Anekwe, Barry Bates, Dr. Tiffiney Bean, LaToya Brown, Dr. Karen Burke, Blake Conner, Caycee Creamer, Arden Cumberbatch, Dr. Nathalie Dames, Dr. Cynthia David, Andrea Davis, Juanita Forrester, Dr. Larona Gore, Christen Green, Tammie Henderson, Jerry Hubbard, Crystal Ivey, Sravanti Kantheti, Saundra King, Alaaeldin Mahmoud, Dr. Maloof, Jeannie Martin, Bhavya Mathur, Linda McDowell, Dr. Mitchell McKinney, Dr. Jackson Moss, Michael Mouat, Asad Mughal, April Murphy, Melissa Nikolic, Dr. Chibuzor Nwankwo, Sarah Osborn, Shawn Phippen, Anna Reese, Kelly Rhoades, Brandon Robinson, Saeideh Sadri, Michelle Smith, Gabriel Swenson, Kiofa Thomas, Anthony Thorpe, Fredia Wimsatt

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Dames and Dr. Maloof.

All attendees introduced themselves including college and courses instructed.

Minutes from the 10/05/2022 meeting were approved.

Nominations for Consortium officers were accepted after the roles and responsibilities of each office were provided. The following were elected: Dr. Maloof for State Chair, Dr. Burke for State Vice Chair/Recorder, Saeideh Sadri for North Regional Chair, Brandon Robinson for Central Regional Chair, and Dr. Bean for South Regional Chair. Points of Contact for each college were identified.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

TCSG Updates:

Curriculum Material Options- Dr. Dames shared an interactive presentation on available resources for online teaching tools and demonstrated Slido, SoftChalk, OpenStax, and YuJa. This is software available through TCSG and are useful tools for student engagement. The use of AI in the classroom was also discussed. A link for GVTC AI resources and OER Course packages was provided.

BIOL IFCC Microsoft Teams-Maloof discussed the availability of a Microsoft Team for the dissemination and sharing of curriculum materials and information. PowerPoints used for the meeting are to be uploaded into Teams.

Optimizing State Standards BIOL 2114/2114L- Proposed changes and additions to the course descriptions and competencies were to be reviewed. A common course description edit that best reflects the course descriptions of local colleges and universities is still **in progress** with a plan to come to a final agreement virtually prior to the next annual meeting.

Current progress:

Continues the study of the anatomy and physiology of the human body. **Emphasis is placed on the development of cellular, tissue, organ, and systemic perspective of anatomical structures, physiological processes, and chemical principles related to physiology.** Topics include the endocrine system, cardiovascular system, blood and lymphatic system, immune system, respiratory system, digestive system, urinary system, and reproductive system. **Also covered is metabolism, as well as fluid, electrolyte, and acid-base balance.**

Attention and Review of TCSG BIOL Courses: Course descriptions of all BIOL courses were individually reviewed. Revision suggestions were as follows:

BIOL 1111- Mirror the current lecture description to the current lab description.

BIOL 1112- Review before the next meeting.

BIOL 2113- Omit second “and” from the last sentence.

BIOL 2117 -Change “and” to “on” for the last two phrases of the current description.

Advancing Professionally within your Science Department-:

- Optimizing Efficiency of your department-Discussion included best practices for extending the scope of involvement in departmental leadership, creating student activities and clubs, bridging between disciplines, departmental collaborations, setting personal and course goals, and volunteering at local middle and high schools. Discussion also included departmental leadership structure and staffing along with lab size compared to course loads and enrollment.
- Contacting publishers-negotiating pricing- Dr. Bean discussed best practices for negotiating textbook and ancillary material pricing with publishers and the bookstore, understanding the economic culture of your college and issues that exist.

Open Discussion, Questions, & Best Practices- The Consortium at large discussed a range of practices involving Remote Work guidelines from representative colleges. Many colleges reported availability of funding for the purchase of supplies and equipment in the operational budget. Discussion also included a use of OER and paid resource use for lectures and labs and the effects on student outcomes. A majority of colleges use a publisher’s textbook and software while others use a combination of paid and open resources.

Official TCSG Biology Instructional Faculty Consortium Committee (IFCC) Officers Transition- New and Continuing term IFCC officers and college Point-of-Contacts were welcomed. Outgoing officers were thanked for their service.

Next Meeting: TBA October 2024

Minutes Submitted By: Karen Burke 11/06/2023