

AY23-2-H

Faculty Senate Issue Log Form

Date-Submitted: 4/7/2023

Title-of-Issue: Policy on Transferable Course Materials for Asynchronous Online Courses.

Description: Recorded lecture materials for online asynchronous courses are qualitatively different than other types of course materials such as syllabi, schedules, reading lists, assignments and assessments in that they represent the identity, reputation, credentials, and experience of the developing faculty member. In-class lectures are not transferable between instructors in on campus courses and in-class instruction is the responsibility of the instructor of record in these courses. This expectation should be equivalent across teaching modalities. Faculty developing these materials should have courses using their likeness and lecture materials count toward their own teaching load in a similar manner regardless of modality. Therefore, the handbook should specify which course materials can and cannot be transferred between instructors without the developing faculty member's permission.

Proposed addition to "Policy for the Support of Program Development and Growth in an Online Delivery Format II. THE FACULTY"

"Only materials that would be transferable in a standard on campus class (such as syllabi, schedules, reading lists, assignments, assessments, and learning management system shell structure) should be transferred to other instructors in asynchronous online courses. Recorded lectures including the image, voice, and original instructional content created by the designer should not be transferred to other instructors without the written consent of the faculty developer as they are equivalent to the in-class instruction that cannot be transferred in an on-campus course and represent the identity, experience, credentials, and professional reputation of the developing faculty member."

Rationale: In order to encourage faculty participation in online course offering, the University should insure that the responsibilities of the instructor of record and the contribution of courses to teaching load are equivalent in the two modalities.

In on campus courses, instructors of record are responsible for providing the in-class instruction and lectures for the course. However, in online courses, recorded video lectures representing the identity, credentials, training, experience, and reputation of the developing instructor can be assigned to other instructors by Chairs and Program Directors. This practice discourages online course development because faculty members who put effort into creating online courses can have their skills and expertise used by other instructors without being compensated or having the course count toward their own teaching load.

On-campus and online courses should be equivalent in what developed course materials should be able to be transferred between instructors without the developing faculty members permission and what materials should be only be used in a course when the developing faculty member is the instructor of record. Those materials that can be transferred in an on campus class should be considered work product that belongs to the University and should be attached to the course (e.g. Syllabi, Schedules, Assessments, Assignments, Rubrics, Learning Management System Course Shells, etc.). Lecture Recordings representing the likeness, experience, professional reputation, and training of the developing instructor should only be transferable to other instructors with the developing instructor's permission and should be assumed to only be used when the developing instructor is the instructor of record on the course.

The faculty handbook "Policy for the Support of Program Development and Growth in an Online Delivery Format" should specify what course materials are attached to the course and transferable to other instructors, and what materials are attached to the developing instructor's courses.

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