Strategic Plan update - Fall 2024

Tuesday, October 29, 2024   3:00 PM

1. In early fall 2024, I met with Ike and Emily Ramage to discuss the possibility of adding the digital course material fees in with course fees, similar to the course fee levels. I sent Ike a proposal that he is going to take to cabinet to discuss. I will proceed accordingly once I have a response.
    a. If this moves forward, this will help two main areas:
        i.   Faculty may be more likely to use digital course material if the costs is factored into the cost of the class since it wouldn't be an additional charge later on in the semester and would be automatically covered with any financial aid and scholarships much easier and seamlessly.
        ii. It would also eliminate a large load of manual work to bill the digital course materials; it's a very time-consuming process that if fully manual and must be done on a strict and short timeline to avoid holding up financial aid and accounting with applying aid and scholarships and processing refunds.
    b. This would also set the College up to move into an EA (exclusive access) program model for course materials as the use of digital course materials grows among faculty, leading to a smoother transition when that time comes.
2. The previous concern of wi-fi support to students for the use of digital course materials is still a concern; at this time I haven't invested much time into this further than previous research. The College offers students the ability to rent mi-fi's and laptops; this program may need expanded once digital is used in a larger capacity.
    a. Rental stats for Fall 2025:
        i.   Laptops: 173
        ii. Chromebooks: 29
        iii. Mi-fi's: 73 (this is all of the mi-fi's the College has)

Faculty use of digital course materials:
There is a little more interest in digital; and I do think as we venture into CBE models, digital use will increase because of the ease of access. I am and will continue working with faculty as they express interest in digital course materials to guide them and connect them with publisher reps and training. I also plan to hold training workshops as digital grows more; currently the faculty who do use it have been using it for a while and are very comfortable doing so.
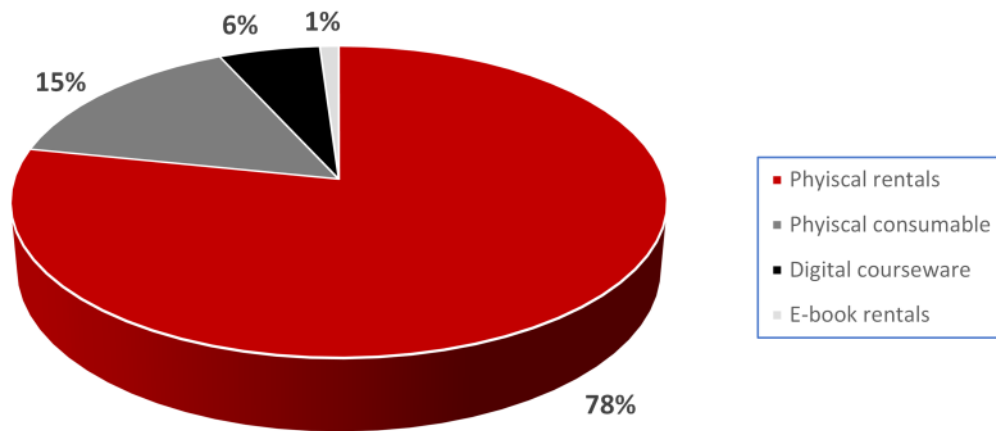
I also plan to work closer with faculty for the new course material request process that is due each April 1. Those who are using very old material or hard-to-obtain material I will work with them and their division chairs to help guide and encourage them to select a new material and in that, having conversations about digital materials.

May host another staff development in the Spring for faculty to get feedback; previous one wasn't well attended but did provide some great feedback even from a small group.

Current stats of course materials for SP25:

Course Material Formats - Fall 2024/Spring 2025

Legend:
- Phyiscal rentals
- Phyiscal consumable
- Digital courseware
- E-book rentals

6% 1% 15% 78%

The OER task force is also meeting again and working on a survey to faculty and plan to continue meeting to provide support to faculty who express interest or wish to create OER materials. The task force just id begin meeting again recently but more will come after the survey goes out the results are in and we can make a plan based off the data.