

JMU Online Teaching & Learning Committee

Midyear Report – Fall 2021

Membership

Chair: Andrea Adams

Members: Andreas Broscheid, Greg Hackbarth, Bill Hartman, Juhong Christie Liu, Sarah MacDonald, Smita Mathur, Laura Miller, Valerie Schoolcraft

Charge: The Online Teaching and Learning Committee will provide structure and coordination for initiatives that support success in online teaching and learning. Committee work will be informed by and provide input on evolving decisions regarding JMU's online learning strategy. Additionally, specific focus and support will be provided for courses, programs, and certificates that are identified at the campus level in support of enrollment and access.

Specific areas of focus for the committee include:

- Course development and instructional design
- Faculty programming and support
- Online program development
- Student support and success
- Technology infrastructure and support

The committee will report to and inform the Online Identity and Direction Committee, while working in collaboration with the Online Virginia Network (OVN) Committee and the Online Policy, Accreditation and Compliance Committee.

Goals for AY2021-22

Focus 1: Center accessibility and equity as we enhance online and hybrid learning at JMU.

- Faculty roundtable focused on DEI, access, lessons learned and social justice. Goal of roundtable will be to understand hurdles and challenges from faculty perspectives, as well as identify lessons learned and/or strategies to carry forward.
- Promotion of services and resources through:
 - Review and update the Online Learning website (the original intent was to pull together all of JMU's online programs).
 - Connection with Academic Unit Heads and identification of other valuable communication pathways.

Focus 2: Continue to align and support evolving campus-level hybrid and online learning strategies. (Keep an eye on how the campus-level strategy emerges. Identify and reach out to departments when new online programs are created.)

Summary of Current Semester Activity

- Facilitated two [faculty roundtables](#) focused on “Faculty Experiences and Needs Around Online Teaching and Learning” in fall 2021.

- Began review of [JMU's Online & Distance Learning website](#) with goal to make recommendations regarding content and edits as appropriate.
- Provided opportunity for coordination and communication across various stakeholders and departments that support online and hybrid learning. Specific topics have included DEI initiatives, accessibility, technology infrastructure, faculty and student needs (especially as related to the pandemic, including workload sustainability and limited resources), class recording policy, etc.

Future Work Planned

- Provide summary from faculty roundtables. Share and utilize summaries to inform decisions related to resources, support structures, and other decisions as appropriate.
- Continue to discuss and ensure DEI and accessibility initiatives are thoughtfully integrated and interwoven throughout online learning infrastructure, programming, support structures and services.
- Continue review of [JMU's Online & Distance Learning website](#) and make recommendations regarding content and edits as appropriate.
- Determine need for and/or continue development of the Online and Hybrid Learning handbook.
- Collaborate with relevant stakeholders to identify and communicate shared terms and terminology (online, hybrid, HyFlex, etc.).
- Continue enhancing coordination and communication across various stakeholders and departments that support online and hybrid learning.