February 10, 2014

Syllabus Connect: response

Although individual faculty might create a simple syllabus using one of the Google tools, Google does not have the system-wide potential for integrated data that makes the proposed project unique. For example, Goggle can not generate a college-wide data base of student learning outcomes or align course syllabus objectives with the programs found in the catalogue.

Most important, the proposed syllabus template system is a research model, designed to generate a *proof of concept.* The project's objective is not to institutionalize the project "as is", but to generate data upon which informed decisions regarding a template system can be made. This is a one-time request. No additional funds will be sought from the Sustainability Council.

However, should data generated by this project be positive, there are a number next-steps that might be considered:

1. A yearly license expendituture for the template system.
2. A template written/programmed in-house.
3. A template created externally with a one time investment.
4. A template system adopted/supported by SUNY for system-wide use that would significantly contribute to Open SUNY objectives.
    a. Attached support in proposal from Doug Cohen (SUNY SLN) demonstrates SUNY interest in this proposal.
    b. Positive outcomes will buttress a $20,000 SUNY FACT2 Innovation grant proposal with the objective of SUNY-wide testing and adoption.

Note: Regardless of specific strategy, an online syllabus template will reduce FIT print costs by $5,000 -$6,000 per year. Cost reduction estimates are based on the following yearly data:

• 9,000 students, taking 10 classes per year, with each class providing a 4-page syllabus= 400,000 printed sheets of paper per year.

• Print Shop figures for 400,000 sheets of printed paper:

Paper- $2600
Equipment consumables- $1500
Labor- $1400