Best Practices for Institutional Support of Technology-Enhanced Education

From the Faculty Committee on the Future of Technology-Enhanced Education (December 2013)

Build experimental culture around technology-enhanced education that improves learning outcomes for students appropriate to their needs and opportunities at NYU.

Professional Development and Support

1. Reward effective teaching and establish incentives within merit evaluation to encourage innovation.

2. Redefine faculty workload with respect to technology-enhanced courses, and clarify faculty intellectual property issues.

3. Educate faculty and teaching assistants by identifying and collecting examples of innovative instruction and by showcasing teaching experiments on a regular basis.

4. Ensure that faculty have the support of professional staff (e.g., librarians, instructional technologists, videographers, programmers, animators, and GIS and statistics specialists) as they develop course content. Create a “DIY” space for faculty to make their own videos and other media-rich content.

5. Facilitate collaborations among faculty, instructional technologists, and IT staff, to allow for team-based development of courses, department/program curricula, and course-related research projects.

Curricular Development and Assessment

6. Use technology to meet the curricular needs of current and future NYU faculty and students across the global network.

7. Support research-based design and assessment of technology-enhanced pedagogy across spectrum of hybrid and on-line formats of student learning.

8. Acknowledge the evolving and ongoing nature of course development. Regard unsuccessful experiments as learning opportunities and collect/share information on faculty efforts to inform ongoing experiments. Plan for regular course updates and improvements based on built-in course assessment.

9. Endorse student-centered alternatives to lecture-based instruction, e.g., reorienting how courses and curricula are delivered to focus on student progress toward subject mastery and acquisition of core competencies.

10. Encourage cooperation among schools and departments to minimize redundancies in instructional offerings.