

Partial Chronology of Distance Learning Endeavors at USFSP (2010-2011)

- 9/09 Dr. Noonan charges Dean Hixson to begin discussions with the College Deans and the “power” DL faculty to review the state of distance learning at USFSP
- 10/09 Dean Hixson convenes an informal group to discuss DL issues (Carol Hixson, Vivian Fueyo, Steve Lang, Frank Biafora, Mark Pezzo, Mark Walters, Rebecca Johns, Tiffany Chenneville, Maling Ebrahimpour, Alison Watkins, David Brodosi)
- 10/09-3/10 Informal group meets several times, agrees on some principles, outlines some issues, and begins working with Dr. Noonan on a Distance Learning Course Development support process. The group recommends that a consultant be brought in to help sort out the issues and help USFSP move forward
- 5/10 Dean Hixson contacts other institutions for recommendations of consultants who might be hired to come to USFSP and begins to investigate options, reporting back to Dr. Noonan and the College Deans. Blackboard, Inc. is invited to make an on-campus presentation.
- 5/26/10 Blackboard Consultants come to campus for the first time to present the outline of what they propose to do for USFSP
- 5/10-6/10 COB and Library work together on the proposal for the online MBA program
- 5/10-8/10 Dr. Noonan and the deans work on the DL course development policy to be presented to faculty at Fall Faculty Meeting
- 8/10-9/10 Blackboard, Inc. presents their Statement of Work and USFSP hires them
- 9/10-10/10 Dean Hixson works with faculty identified by the College Deans to enlist their interest in engaging in the DL review and continuing education opportunities with Blackboard
- 10/22/10 Dr. Noonan charges the Distance Learning Advisory Committee, chaired by Dean Hixson
- 10/28/10 Dean Hixson gives the DLAC its first assignment to serve as the Steering Committee for the Blackboard consultation and presents state guidelines and other background information for them to review
- 10/10-11/10 Dean Hixson and David Brodosi work with Blackboard consultants to set up series of meetings, interviews (37), and faculty and student surveys
- 11/5/10 Dean Hixson sends survey link to all faculty (40 faculty responded)
- 11/8-11/10/10 Blackboard, Inc. on campus for series of meetings and interviews with Steering Committee and other groups

- 11/12/10 Dean Hixson, with Dr. Kelso's approval, asks Student Affairs to send out survey link to all students. She also enlists faculty to add the link to their Blackboard course pages (160 students responded)
- 12/15-12/17/10 Blackboard, Inc. on campus for series of meetings with Steering Committee and faculty working groups
- 1/11-2/11 Dean Hixson and David Brodosi coordinate and support the workshops being offered by Blackboard for USFSP faculty. Dean Hixson surveys faculty for their reactions to workshops and provides feedback to Blackboard trainers
- 1/28/11 First workshop: Designing Exemplary Online Courses (16 registrants)
- 2/11 Blackboard presents Executive Summary and Final Report to USFSP
- 2/18/11 Second workshop: Transitioning to the Online Classroom (16 registrants)
- 3/14-3/15/11 Third workshop: Best practices in Online Instruction (15 registrants)