Minutes
Tech Vision Committee
December 12, 2008

The Tech Vision Committee meeting was given over to a presentation by Dennis Nullett, KCC Geography Professor, on online instruction. Salient issues that he touched on include:

Faculty Training: KCC offers a faculty training program for new online instructors, part of which is online, part F2F. Dennis has information concerning that training and offered to keep our faculty informed about schedules and enrollments. In his view, new faculty should be required to go through that training (currently KCC does not require the training) before being allowed to teach an online class. The KCC training provides a mentor to work one on one with new faculty for each class.

He noted that online texts are available for many classes, and often cost about half of a traditional text. Texts may be located on Manoa’s Unix server.

He discussed tech issues, in particular problems with Laulima. In his experience, students contact the instructor first with Laulima problems. The instructor should direct them to Laulima support at Manoa. Few, if any, ever contact the KCC IT support, but Dennis had never had a student who had IT-level tech problems.

Laulima provides both student and faculty orientation pages that are quite helpful and effective.

Course evaluations must of necessity be different from F2F class evaluations. Peer evaluations may be done by asking peers to analyze the course site, listen into chat rooms, evaluate class dialog etc. Student evaluations use the same form as F2F classes. Dennis mentioned that Peggy Cha at Kauai is a good contact.

Finally, he discussed the vital importance of good tech support for such projects as web pages etc. He concluded by volunteering to return if we thought he could be of further assistance.

Richard Fulton
Acting secretary