<u>Day 10</u>: **Did you know that CMU must document how it delivers courses and programs that are of consistent quality and learning outcomes, regardless of where instruction is offered or how it is delivered?**

[HLC Criterion 3.A.3] Consistency of program quality and learning goals across all modes of delivery and all locations.

Students can enroll in courses at CMU offered on site, online, or for dual (concurrent) credit at regional high schools. In 2013, the University implemented a *Course Comparability Manual* as guidance to ensure consistency of course content, rigor, outcomes, and delivery regardless of where or how a course is delivered.   The *Manual* also articulates expectations to ensure that all faculty members are properly credentialed and qualified to offer CMU coursework.

Some programs on campus coordinate course delivery in the regional high schools where, as allowable through Colorado Statutes, students can earn college credit and also receive high school credit toward graduation. The success of dual credit courses is dependent on course quality and rigor that is comparable to main campus courses offered by full-time faculty. Programs offering concurrent credit courses, either in Essential Learning or in career/technical education, have a full-time faculty member who serves as a liaison with the high school teacher. The liaison is the primary point of contact, periodically observes the high school instructor, and shares resources. The Academic Department Head is responsible for approving the high school teacher's credentials and conducting an evaluation as is done with all other CMU faculty.

In terms of comparability of coursework however and wherever it is offered by CMU, the Academic Department Heads audited course sections that awarded dual credit in regional high schools, were delivered on either the CMU Montrose or WCCC campuses, or online, or had multiple instructors across sections. Using a series of criteria, the department heads evaluated how these sections compared to those sections delivered on the main campus in Academic Year 2016-17. In general, the course comparability audits show a high degree of communication between high school instructors and faculty from academic programs on the main campus, inclusion of SLOs, as well as consistency of instructional materials.

Tomlinson Library provides materials and service across all locations and modes. It provides IM chat as a mechanism to deliver research help to online students, delivers physical materials to the Montrose and WCCC campuses, provides information literacy instruction for dual credit courses, and selects e-books mindful of online courses and programs.

To support consistent quality of instruction and delivery of online courses, the Office of Distance Education (ODE) offers Online Teaching Essentials (OTE) training for faculty developing their first online course. Faculty must successfully complete the OTE course, which is offered by

the Distance Education staff. Since its inception in 2013, training has been offered 13 times to 136 faculty participants.

To learn more, log into MAVzone and click on the document link found in the CMU Assurance Argument for HLC channel (top left on the Home tab) for the full text of CMU's Assurance Argument. Links to supporting evidence are identified by underlined words but are not available through the PDF version.

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