

DLC MEETING, 14 June 2007

Fedro reviewed the agenda and requested approval of the minutes from last month (10 May).

1. Local Expert Series: Jeanna Mastrodicasa on "Millennial College Students"

Junco & Mastrodicasa (2007). *Connecting to the Net.Generation: What Higher Education Professionals Need to Know about Today's Students*. NASPA.

Millennial students = (1982-present)

7 characteristics (Howe and Strauss)

- "Special" - focus of attention
- Sheltered -
- Confident – trusting, optimistic, believe in authority
- Team-Oriented – like to congregate, work in groups/teams, constant contact with peers
- Conventional – focus on brands, social rules, accepting of adult authority
- Pressured – opportunities abound, willing to cheat, emphasis on planning for future, seek job and life security – but increasing mental health issues
- Achieving – expect high grades, focus on not falling behind peers – want a comfortable life not "a meaningful philosophy of life."

Other characteristics:

Students are strongly connected to parents

Student communication:

Internet, chat, blogging

Constant IM use and multi-tasking

Online tasks that hurt schoolwork:

Playing games, IMing, surfing

Social Networking:

Average student logs in to FaceBook at least once per day

Recommendations for faculty:

- Individual attention and contact: It's not the quantity, it's the quality.
- Learn names, seek informal contact, talk to students outside of class
- Encourage class participation, participation in groups, group activities, discussions, learning partners
- Give frequent, prompt, and constructive feedback

Today's presentation is available online at: <http://oak.at.ufl.edu/~video/mediasite/20070614-dlc/>

2. AUSA Job Fair report and DL in military market: Kristian Serrano

- People are looking to complete or earn Bachelor's Degrees (mostly complete), interest in business, criminal justice. Not much interest in certificates.
- Inquiry about UF membership in Go Army Ed – army listing for education sources/providers. requires institutional contact and institutional IT contact.
- Top three military needs: college advisor, college admissions, military counselor
- Recommendation of a task force to examine positioning UF for the military DE market

3. DLC Priorities

- Local expert presentations started today
- Recommendation from Fedro that we consider a tech adoption process for next meeting. This type of role is already embedded in AT but needs to be expanded to formally implement at the institutional level including funding for conferences, technology trials (seed money), support for faculty exploring DE and online technologies, etc.
- How to get beyond how do we do distance education, to how **should** we be doing distance education at UF? How to increase the strategic focus of the group? What will be the future of this group? Seeking to enhance the success of the group by identifying meaningful directions and accomplishments.

Next Meeting: 12 July 2007