

Dear members of the UHD Faculty:

You will find attached a copy of the Senate report on the 2010 Faculty Survey on Online Education at UHD. This is a significant piece of work that provides valuable insights into the perspectives on online education at UHD of a large percentage of the UHD faculty, including a majority of those in tenure-tenure-track positions, and a significant number of lecturers and the adjunct faculty.

The report presents and interprets results of the survey given to faculty in Spring 2010. It indicates clearly that faculty, including those who have and have not taught online, has a strong sense of responsibility for ensuring the quality of online ed and wants to be fully engaged in developing our online courses and programs. It also points out quite a few key concerns about our current online efforts, some strengths, and some of the areas that need to be addressed to develop an effective online program that contributes to a quality education for our students. It also offers some recommendations for achieving this goal.

I encourage you to read the main body of the report and look over the data to develop a sense of the UHD faculty's perspectives on the present status of online education here.

I wish to thank a large number of faculty members who contributed to the survey and to the preparation of the report:

- The Fall 2010 Senate committee that volunteered to carry out the tedious process of actually preparing the report: Austin Allen (chair), Ron Beebe, Jeff Jackson, Michelle Moosally, and Vasilis Zafiris;
- the Fall 2010/11 Senate that provided essential comments, suggestions, and criticism throughout the process of preparing the report, both during and outside of Senate meetings- these contributions were critical in shaping the report;
- Dr. Susan Henney for contributing many hours turning lots of raw data into meaningful tables and graphs and providing valuable assistance with interpretation of the results;
- the 2009/10 Senate body, under the leadership of Michelle Moosally, and especially those who developed the survey instrument and assisted with the conduct of the survey;
- IT staff who helped in putting the survey online and with administering it;
- All of the faculty members who participated in the survey.

Gratefully,

Phil

**Philip C Lyons, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Biology and Microbiology

UHD Faculty Senate President

Department of Natural Sciences

University of Houston-Downtown

One Main Street

Houston, TX 77002

713-221-8489