

PROVOST ANDREWS' COMMENTS TO FACULTY SENATE
FEB 4, 2013

1. D2L

Last week 25% of D2L customers around the country, including PSU, were impacted by a major systems failure at the D2L hosting site. We recognize the disruption this caused and assume that those teaching with D2L have made the accommodations necessary for students in your courses. By the end of the week the majority of D2L customers (including PSU) were back online, and the site stabilized and verified.

Rest assured that we are assessing the quality and level of service provided by the D2L hosting site and will be exploring the possibility of hosting D2L internally in the PSU Data Center where we would control the quality of service for our faculty and students.

We know full well that our reliance on technology will only increase. This incident also points to the need for PSU to develop some administrative guidelines for these types of occurrences.

2. Response to "Question for Administrators" regarding Provost's Challenge evaluation process.

The evaluation process for Provost's Challenge Awards is now available at http://www.pdx.edu/oa/sites/www.pdx.edu/oa/files/reTHINK_EP.pdf.

A reminder that a Provost's Challenge award is a granting of funds and support. It does not constitute approval of courses or programs and does not bypass the need for shared governance. New course and programs will need to go through the shared governance process

Based on the conversation at the Senate meeting, the open comment period for proposals will extend to Feb 22nd.

3. Request from the Provost

In a desire to have more conversation with the Senate during the Provost's Comments agenda, the Provost requested senators to reflect on what is happening in regard to reTHINK PSU, changes in their own disciplines and changes they see taking place in higher ed and to suggest topics of conversation that can take place during the Provost's Comments time at Senate meetings.