MOOCs and the Academic Enterprise: Framing Key Questions & Issues

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Massively Open Online Courses
MOOCs

*Rapidly Evolving Environment*

• Coursera, Udacity, and EdX developing “courses” that are open and have the potential to enhance access and significantly improve affordability for students.

• A.C.E. certification being sought for valuation of credit. Only five courses to date have been certified.

• Very active conversation regarding **DEVELOPMENT** of content. Emerging conversation regarding **UTILIZATION** of content. ★

• Talk of credits, course sequences, supplement of instruction, acceleration options, & full degrees & certificates

• MOOC conversations are changing on a daily basis.
MOOCs

Significant Opportunities

• Cost-effectively use these resources to improve access and acceleration while preserving and enhancing quality

• **MOOC Content** + Supports + Proctored Assessments + Transcripting Function

• Disruptive innovation does challenge the fiscal model and core components of our enterprise.

• **Tensions** between student-centered and institution-centered world views
Complementary Paths to Degree Acceleration and Completion

Scenario 1
- 4-yr: 60 credits
- 2-yr: 80 credits

Scenario 2
- 4-yr: 30 credits
- 4-yr1: 20 credits
- 2-yr: 50 credits
- CLEP: 10 credits
- Dual: 10 credits
- AP: 20 credits

MOOC Credits?
MOOCs

Exploring Institutional & Student Uses

- Enhanced capacity and availability of general education courses
- Increased supports for high DFW courses
- Enrichment of selected courses
- Additional low-risk recruiting channels for adult degree completion
- Possibilities of degree credit pathways
Possibilities of an Associate Degree via MOOC Options

Coursera, Udacity, and EdX are building out “courses,” some of which could be certified for credit in the core (Very limited number certified by A.C.E.)
Within the MOOC’s there are “courses” that could be utilized in building out sequences for Associate degree completion and some possibilities for Bachelor’s concentrations.
Graduate Certificate and/or Degree Completion

- Specialized efforts already underway in Computer Science and Business disciplines within all three of the major MOOC’s

- Georgia Tech’s recent approval of the Masters of Science in Computer Science
  - Existing program modified and brought to scale in a MOOC-like format
MOOCs

Initial USG System Thoughts

• Extension of our commitment to affordability, quality, access, and completion
• Increased policy flexibility and options for our campuses to experiment and be innovative
• Lead in creation of complementary pathways to credit and credentials
• Exploring implications of quality review processes and general academic program approval/review mechanisms
• Partner with other systems and states
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