The Academic Technology department plays a critical role in the introduction, implementation and training in multiple technologies that facilitate instruction and support the instructional mission of the college. The AT department also plays a broad leadership role in Professional Development across the college, ensuring that all employees have access to training and development opportunities that will enable them to be healthy, empowered, and effective in their work.

The Academic Technology (AT) Department supports Canvas for each of the over 5,000 sections per year, and each of the almost 35,000 students who are enrolled in them. From Fall of 2015 to Fall of 2018, the number of online sections grew from 78 to 217, and the number of hybrid sections was stable at around 40. Canvas usage has also increased, with most faculty using Canvas in some way in their courses.

The AT Department coordinates several major Professional Development initiatives, including FLEX Week, Adjunct Orientation, and the New Faculty Seminar Series. Additionally, the department supports eLumen use for Curriculum, Assessment, and Program Review for college-wide use, and also creates and organizes training and self-service resources for that platform.

Finally, the AT Department provides college-wide leadership for instructional technology and distance education, targeting the success and completion of all BC students, with a particular emphasis on our online students. The Renegade Online Student Hub is one area of innovation that, while new, is expected to have a significant long-term impact on the success and completion of online students at Bakersfield College. This initiative should also have an impact on some of the special populations served by Bakersfield College as well, closing the equity gap found in most online instruction.

Currently, the AT Department consists of a Dean of Instruction, one Faculty Instructional Designer, two Classified Educational Media Design Specialists, and one Executive Secretary. The Renegade Online Student Hub is staffed, in part, by student employees. In the last two years, the number of full-time employees in the department has remained constant.

The 2018-2019 Workplan for Academic Technology identified the following goal areas and related projects, which connect directly with the college’s Strategic Directions. Progress toward each project/goal is written inline below in gray text:

**Strategic Direction #2: Progression and Completion**
Increase Online Program Completion and Course Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project:</th>
<th>Completion Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop active monitoring system for online students</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starfish has been implemented through the Renegade Online Student Hub, which will help facilitate the support and tracking of Online Students on an individual level.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop affinity support group for online students</td>
<td>Fall 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Online Student Affinity Group meets on a biweekly basis, and is advancing several initiatives to improve completion and success for online students.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streamline enrollment &amp; matriculation services for online students</td>
<td>1/1/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling has improved their services for online students, and is exploring the idea of rolling out Zoom counseling capabilities to additional counselors and educational advisors.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launch second cohort of online programs (6 additional)</td>
<td>5/1/2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Project:**
The AT Department has identified 12 additional programs which are all strong candidates for 100% online. These will be vetted with the academic departments, and once planning is complete all eligible programs will be added to the Renegade Online web site. The Communication department is completing the development of a fully online oral communication course, which will allow the complete general education pattern to be offered online.

**Identify and launch additional GE courses online** | 5/1/2019
---|---
Along with the development of additional online degrees, the AT Department is identifying strategic courses that, if offered online, will allow greater numbers of students to complete their general education requirements fully online.

**Launch the Renegade Online Student Hub** | Fall 2018
---|---
The Hub was launched in the Fall semester (soft launch), and has now completed the development of systems for support and student tracking. In the Spring 2019 term, the Hub will have a larger public launch, targeting the full set of online courses.

**Strategic Directions: #1 – Student Learning**

**#4 - Leadership and Engagement**

**Improve Support Services for Online Faculty and Students**

**Project:**
**Course Design Tools Launch & Training** | 1/1/2019
---|---
Design Tools has been fully implemented. Approximately 100 faculty have been trained in the use of Design Tools, and more sessions are scheduled for the future. Also, an advanced Design Tools training is being developed and will be offered before January 1.

**Online Teaching 101 Course Developed** | 1/1/2019
---|---
This course was offered in the summer term, and will also be re-developed as a self-paced course by the end of the Spring 2019 term.

**Advanced Online Teaching – Cohorts 2 & 3** | 7/1/2018 & 1/1/2019
---|---
The Online Teaching 101 course has been offered to over 80 faculty through 3 sessions. The course will be offered again in November/December, and possibly in the spring.

**Strategic Directions: #1 – Student Learning**

**Develop Services, Outreach and Programs for Homeschool Families**

**Project:**
**Pilot homeschool-specific outreach events.** | N/A
---|---
There have been two homeschool specific outreach events: There was an express enrollment event in July, and also a open house for homeschool families at BCSW in the fall. Future express enrollment events will include a homeschool track as well.

**Develop a homeschool resources web page.** | N/A
---|---
The homepage, and homeschool@bakersfieldcollege.edu contact email are both live.

**Begin the development of a learning pathway for homeschool students.** | N/A
---|---
The first homeschool dual enrollment course, COMM B1, will be offered through Valley Oaks Charter School in the Spring 2019 term. Discussions are underway for a complete pilot of the early college program through Valley Oaks, for possible start in 2019-2020.