eCore Teaching Experience

When the online curriculum began in FY 2001, 16 faculty members taught eCore courses. During FY 2012, the eCore faculty pool consisted of 124 faculty members, of which 75 were veteran faculty and 49 were first-time eCore faculty.

Out of 124 eCore instructors: 94 were full-time at their home institutions; 23 were part-time; and 7 were retired during FY 2012.

Current Initiatives

Chemistry Lab and Knowledge Experiences

eCore modified the Principles of Chemistry courses to add more activities that are supervised by the instructor. Some of the new strategies were piloted in Spring 2012. Full implementation will take place in future terms:

- Initial Practical Lab
  (Face-to-face, with instructor presence)
- Synchronous Labs/“LiveLabs”
  (Online with instructor presence)
- Asynchronous Labs

LiveLabs

Definition: An eCore LiveLab is a synchronous online opportunity for instructors and students to meet for supervised course work using real-time video.

Purpose: For the CHEM 1211K and CHEM 1212K courses, LiveLab can be utilized for supervision of chemical labs conducted by students.

Chemistry With Worked Examples: LiveScribe

eCore provided LiveScribe pens to Chemistry instructors in the Fall of 2011. The instructors were given a brief demonstration on the use of the tool and encouraged to use it in their courses. LiveScribe allows the instructor to record his/her voice while working through examples. Updated versions of the Chemistry courses will include some pre-recorded worked examples within the lesson modules.

Faculty Certification Course

Modifications to the Faculty Certification Course include:

- Screen-shots and detailed instructions for course items that are imperative to a successful eCore course (e.g. creating discussion boards, posting a welcome message, setting up the course calendar, etc.)