

American Studies Resolution on “Smart” Classrooms

Whereas, the “smart classrooms” were so-designated because they purported to support audio-visual presentation as a component of academic teaching, and;

Whereas, several of the DVD players and other essential components necessary to teaching media and other disciplines are either not functioning or missing, and;

Whereas, the temporary solution of portable DVD player or laptop computer (to be signed out by faculty who must surrender a driver’s license to the Help Desk) can result in connectivity problems, delays, and confusion during the precious minutes between classes when students have questions or need assistance, and;

Whereas, connectivity issues and bandwidth limitations prevent reliable streaming of online video resources as an alternative, and;

Whereas, inadequate or poorly-functioning classroom technology can hinder effective teaching, create an impression among students that the College is not properly equipped, and have a negative impact on students’ learning and experience at the College.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Senate request a report from the Instructional Technology department, and/or the IT Governance Committee, about the state of the “smart classrooms” and the schedule for refreshing equipment when needed, and;

Be it further resolved that IT work with Academic Affairs and affected departments to ensure that a complete and up-to-date array of reliable devices be provided promptly in each of rooms currently designated as “smart classrooms.”