Supporting Faculty Success Through Self-Support Programs

Brian Tietje, Dean Cal Poly Continuing Education



Contributing factors for faculty success

- Additional income
- Release time and scheduling flexibility for research, scholarly, and creative activities (RSCA)
- Graduate student (TA & RA) support
- Staff support
- Laboratories and other facilities
- Computer software and hardware
- RSCA-related travel



Self-support program opportunities

- Non-thesis graduate certificates and degree programs, including stackable certificates, for working professionals
- Classes and workshops offering continuing education units (CEU's) for licensed professionals
- Professional short courses and workshops
- Academic and professional conferences
- Copyrightable digital course content



The self-support business model

- Estimate direct and indirect costs for the course
- Estimate enrollment
- Calculate student fees to cover all costs, and obtain fee approval (for academic courses)
- Collect fees in CERF (continuing education revenue fund)
- Pay all direct expenses out of CERF, including instructor pay
- Reimburse appropriate entities (including departments) for indirect costs



Reserves

Any student fees for a specific course or program that are still remaining after all direct and indirect costs have been paid remain in CERF for contingency reserves to ensure the long-term viability of that specific course or program. For example, reserves can be used to offset unexpected costs or enrollment fluctuations in that course or program from year to year.



Campus self-support indirect costs

All self-support courses and programs include a budget item for "campus self-support indirects". For academic courses, these indirects are \$150 per SCU for on-campus and \$100 per SCU for off-campus courses or programs. These funds cover a portion of Continuing Education overhead, campus indirect costs (e.g., ITS), Chancellor's Office overhead allocations to campuses, and the State pro-rata (mostly for retiree medical benefits).



How self-support programs can help departments and faculty

- State-supported instruction is reimbursed by CERF for all direct and indirect costs.
- Faculty can be paid extra compensation directly from CERF. Or the College or Department can be reimbursed for a portion of the faculty member's WTU workload.
- Colleges and Departments are reimbursed for any indirect costs (e.g., staff, facilities) incurred to develop and deliver a self-support program.



How self-support programs can help departments and faculty (continued)

- Faculty could receive licensing or royalty payments for the use of copyrighted course content.
- Student fees could be used to pay for SA's or TA's to help facilitate self-support instruction.
- Faculty RSCA-related activities could be funded by self-support fees, provided these activities relate directly to the courses / programs that generated the fees.



How self-support programs can help departments and faculty (continued)

- Self-support fees could be used to fund online and hybrid course development and conversion in an effort to:
 - Attract working professionals from across the Western United States
 - Accommodate faculty scheduling flexibility for RSCA activities and family responsibilities
 - Enhance in-class learn-by-doing emphasis by migrating lectures and other suitable content outside class (e.g., Khan Academy's upside-down pedagogy)



Tremendous opportunities for alternative revenue models





Cal Poly Continuing Education's Mission Statement

 Develop and deliver *turnkey academic solutions* that leverage Cal Poly's distinctive capabilities to reach new markets who will invest in *financially self-supporting* academic experiences.



Cal Poly Continuing Education is here to help

Brian Tietje: new program development

- Pat Stoneman: new program development and University-wide initiatives
- Lorie Harrington: program support for OCOB, CENG, and COSAM
- Rose Duran: program support for CAFES, CLA, and CAED
- Elaine Sullivan: marketing support

