

Promoting Instructional Engagement in RSI

The goal of this document is to provide a model of RSI documentation for COOL to send forward to Academic Senate. After receiving feedback over the summer, Senate will endorse one model to implement.

New requirements from the federal government mandate online courses include Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI). This mandate is reinforced at the state level in recent changes to California's Title 5. It is important to note that RSI is linked to higher success rates, and increased, intentional RSI benefits both instructors and students.

Campuses have been tasked with developing standards and processes for defining and documenting RSI. We're currently exploring a 3-year model. Faculty teaching online would go through the RSI documentation process every three years, and will receive a badge for successfully completing the process.

Option 1: Professional Development/PGA Badges

- Faculty complete an online asynchronous course (facilitated by Online Learning Coordinators and staff) on RSI which includes:
 - Discussion of institutional RSI guidelines
 - Reflection on their course using the institutional RSI guidelines
 - Peer review of RSI within a course
- Completion of the asynchronous course, discussion, peer review and reflection will take approximately 18 hours.
- Every three years, each faculty member is required to "renew" their RSI badge

Option 2: Online Learning Coaching Model

- Online Faculty Coordinators, along with an instructional designer, lead **individual** or **small group** reviews of courses within their department/division. Groups meet 2 hours per quarter.
- Faculty reflect on their course using the institutional RSI guidelines
- Every three years, each faculty member should have at least one of their online courses reviewed
- Course reviews would take place using a review template provided by Online Learning in a development shell to respect student privacy. Instructors would document examples of substantive interactions and provide reflections. Faculty who successfully document RSI metrics in their teaching will receive an RSI badge for 3 years.
- Courses that need additional substantive and timely interaction will be re-reviewed within 2 quarters
- Participants in the RSI cohort will spend approximately 2 hours per quarter in these activities.