

Proposal for Amendment to Online Teaching Guidelines: RSI Plan Requirement

To: Bakersfield College Academic Senate

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1. Identification of Key Issue

The current Online Teaching guidelines detail a requirement for an RSI Plan page in Canvas to facilitate the course review process and reduce workload both for reviewers and reviewees. However, requiring that the RSI Plan be submitted to Chairs/Deans may cause unforeseen workload issues/administrative burden.

2. Underlying Rationale

Federal regulations regarding RSI have been in effect since 2021, and ACCJC began incorporating these into accreditation requirements in 2024. Implementing a requirement for an **RSI Plan** ensures that:

- Bakersfield College remains compliant with federal financial aid eligibility requirements.
- Faculty are prepared for AIQ course reviews and for ACCJC "sampling" during Distance Education Reviews.
- Faculty receive the necessary institutional support to meet these standards.

This can be implemented and enforced through the course review process, rather than a submission and review by the Department Chair.

3. Relevant Background and Institutional History

The BC Academic Senate approved the current Distance Education Online Teaching Guidelines in 2025. While AIQ has worked to establish a tool and review process, the process would be facilitated by an unpublished RSI Plan Canvas page in which faculty being reviewed could explain in what areas of their course reviewers should look for evidence of RSI. The requirement for an RSI plan will be embedded within the rubric used by course reviewers.

4. Anticipated Opposing Arguments

- **No Department Oversight:** How can we ensure the plan is being developed when it is a single line in a long rubric? Would the lack of an RSI stop the review from occurring?

5. Proposed Solution

It is recommended that the Online Teaching Guidelines be amended to remove the requirement to submitted to Department Chair and Dean.