LAMC LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (LOAC)

Minutes of Meeting
October 8, 2014

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. CSB 102B

Present: Faculty Co-Chair Pat Flood, Business and Law; Patricia Rodriguez, Child Development; Deborah Paulsen, Arts, Media & Humanities; Jolie R. Scheib, Foreign Languages; Raymond Gosend, ASO President; Emil Sargsyan, Math; Par Mohammadian, Life Sciences; Sheila MacDowell, Library; Mark Pursley, Social Sciences; Andzhela Keshishyan, English

1. Approval of the minutes of September 24, 2014

The minutes of the September 24, 2014 LOAC meeting were approved by consensus.

2. Updates

Pat Flood talked about her telephone conversation with Dr. Mathew Lee regarding LAMC’s response to Recommendation #2 for the Follow-up Report, which is due by March 2015. Dr Lee is a researcher and independent consultant, who is now contracted to be an accreditation consultant for the entire LACCD district. Originally, LAMC was given 14 recommendations; nine of those have been cleared and we are down to five that the college is still working on. Recommendation #2 is one of these. Dr. Lee’s comments will be helpful to her in rewriting her response about our SLO progress. An important piece of evidence for the Follow-up Report will be the Mission Learning Report for which Dr. Lee has written an outline.

The committee also discussed addressing learning styles and the upcoming Eagle’s Nest Workshops.

3. SLO Curriculum Addendum

Pat distributed a copy of the SLO Curriculum Addendum. On the back of the form is an SLO/PLO/ILO matrix. When an SLO needs to be updated, but not the entire course, faculty will attach the addendum and the update can be “fast tracked.” Pat mentioned that it is important that the SLOs on every course syllabus match the SLOs in the Course Outline of Record.

The addendum includes how SLOs are assessed along with the criteria and rating scale. Including the assessment rubric in the curriculum attachment helps with planning. Faculty need to enter the benchmark for student success; the standard is 70%, unless modified.
4. Review of LOAC Charter

The committee reviewed the LOAC Charter and compared it with the annual goals distributed at the last meeting to be sure they are consistent. Pat reminded the LOAC members that they should act as ambassadors for SLOs with their department faculty. Methods of ensuring quality were discussed. In addition to the department chairs and SLO Coordinators, the Academic Deans will be reading assessments and giving feedback to departments. There is a task force from the COI that is working on guidelines for consequences for disciplines that are not getting their Curriculum and SLO assessments completed.

5. Information Competency Task Force Report – Sheila MacDowell

The Information Competency (IC) ILO assessment group met on 9/30/2014 to review the pilot IC assessment conducted last spring and the recommendations in the report. Sheila MacDowell talked about plans to run the assessment again in spring 2015 with planning taking place this fall. One of the reasons the assessment will be conducted in the spring is that there are a number of surveys being conducted this fall; for example, faculty are presently completing the bi-annual district wide survey. The committee discussed strategies on how to obtain good student feedback on the IC survey.

6. SLO 2nd Annual Summit – Friday, October 17, 2014

Pat Flood sent out an RSVP request to chairs to get a sense of attendance for the SLO Summit on Friday, October 17. She has been working with Bob Pacheco, the guest speaker, who will be talking about the value of assessment. The focus of the Summit will be on completing PLO assessments. Faculty should bring laptops. Pat will give an demonstration on how to post a PLO assessment using the recently revised online SLO system. Pat mentioned that Math and Life Sciences have created model assessments.

7. Learning Outcome Assessment Rubrics and Quality Control Process

The process for ensuring continuous quality assessment and improvement was addressed. The idea of LOAC giving qualitative feedback to departments, Student Services and Administrative Services was discussed. At present department chairs and the SLO Coordinators have been reviewing assessments for quality. This year the newly hired academic deans also will be reviewing assessments. It was mentioned that the ILO assessment schedule needs to be slightly modified due to the intensity of the workload in other areas this fall, especially in the areas of accreditation. LOAC soon will start to review all ILO previous assessments in preparation for the next round of assessments and make recommendations to administration for how to use assessment results to help drive the decision-making process. Discussion continued regarding ensuring the recommended processes in assessment and utilization of the results and how to involve the ASO.
Pat reviewed recent updates to the SLO assessment system and showed the SLO website and the location for various items such as the assessment results and where the postings are for the agenda, minutes, and resources for all LOAC meetings. She mentioned that Nick Minassian is still making some changes to the system. For the SLO Summit, Pat will be distributing step-by-step directions including screen shots for how to post a PLO assessment. She also mentioned that there is now a process for archiving “old” SLOs.

8. Next LOAC Meeting – November 12, 2014; 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Adjourned 3:25 p.m.

Recorder: Deborah Paulsen