LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (LOAC)

Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2015
3:30 – 5:00, CAI Arroyo Room

Present: Faculty Co-Chair Pat Flood, Business and Law; Co-Chair Sarah Master, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness; Steve Brown, Life Sciences; Carolyn Daly, English; Par Mohammadian, Life Sciences; Patricia Chow, Research Analyst; Aleida Gomez, Counseling; Sheila MacDowell, Library; Emil Sargsyan, Math; Mark Pursley, Social Sciences; Darlene Montes, Dean of Academic Affairs, Dennis Schroeder, Financial Aid; Tara Ward-Thompson, Administrative Services; Patricia Rodriguez, Child Development

Approval of Minutes of February 24, 2015 Meeting
• Minutes of February 24, 2015 approved (Sargsyan/Brown)

Update on SLO/PLO Assessment Progress
• Pat indicated that 275 courses (>275 sections) had 488 assessments in Fall 2014 (225 in Fall 2013 and 295 in Spring 2014).
• Pat stated that 431 courses have >1 assessment.
• Pat also indicated that more follow-up assessment textboxes need to be filled in on the online system.
  o Steve stressed the importance of a complete assessment “cycle” which involves necessary follow-up assessments.
  o It was suggested that the placement of the follow-up textbox be repositioned in the online system so that faculty are less likely to skip it.

Summary of SLO Regional Symposium Friday March 6 – Rio Hondo College
• Pat attended the SLO Regional Symposium on March 6 at Rio Hondo College and reported:
  o The symposium was well attended by colleges in the Southern California region.
  o Bob Pacheco gave a presentation and discussed 5 reasons we assess among other things: to become masters of our craft, determine the extent to which curriculum is working, inform decisions, help us become more adaptive, demonstrate quality assurance.
  o Chaffey College is using pre- and post- student surveys to assess ILOs.
  o West LA College has students present posters to assess their ILOs, which are evaluated using rubrics.
  o In a survey of the colleges present, most feel release time is not sufficient to work on SLOs.
  o Each department should have a lead person.
  o Assessments should address resource needs.
  o Focus should be on learning as revealed in LO assessment instead of teaching.
  o The difference between formative (more specific) vs. summative (broader) assessments was discussed.
  o SLOs should answer the question “What do you want your students to learn?”
SLO statements should address what students will do (verb – observable behavior) with (noun).

Syllabus = plan, Action = instruction, Observe result – Reflect – Plan

Every outcome statement should include the assessment.

Bring students into the discussion (ask them about the outcomes they value).

- Emil commented that one instructor stated that she “feels bad that the class didn’t fill up” and may be cancelled, but in his opinion lower class size may be better because of increased student focus.
- Emil emphasized the importance of student perspective.
- Steve commented that students should be consulted after relevant course exercises pertaining to an SLO.

ACCJC Annual Report due March 31

- Pat distributed the questions for the ACCJC 2015 Annual Report.
- She sent the chairs the 2014 report and asked them to update it for 2015 and to share student success stories.

Student Services Update on SAO (service area outcome) Assessment Progress – Dennis Schroeder

- Student Services Comprehensive Program Reviews and validations were done by the end of August (1 department had 9 SAOs, most have 2 or 3).
- In fall 2014 about half the SAOs were assessed, and the rest will be assessed this spring. Those SAOs that were no longer useful were archived.
- Student Services had training by Dr. Matthew Lee on how to make SAOs more meaningful and how to improve the method of assessment.
- Based on the fall assessments, student service SAO changes will be implemented in the spring. All new SAOs will be assessed by the end of spring.
- There are 15 total student service departments.
- Patricia Chow commented that the nature of SAOs is to meet and retire them as opposed to reassessing them which could create a bad picture of SAO progress.

Mission Learning Report – Patricia Chow

- Patricia presented a more visual representation of the Mission Learning Report data and explained the planned organization of the report.
- She mentioned that each year’s report will be based on the previous year’s data (2014/15 report presents 2013/14 data); however, supplements will be included to update the information.

Institutional Learning Outcome Assessments

1. Information Competency – Sheila MacDowell
   - Reviewed and updated assessment methods, rubrics from previous ILO Information Competency assessment.
   - Plan to redo survey in spring (after spring break)– who to survey?
     - Courses with prerequisites, top level courses?
     - Sarah suggested contacting instructors who teach such courses.
- Last time used 16 sections in 9 courses
  - Best to have Sarah Master and Patricia decide how to choose a more random sample of existing students.
  - Steve suggested that we focus on students who are primarily educated at Mission College.
- Written Communication
  - Pat reviewed the questions that were used to assess the ILOs previously.
  - Nick Minassian will provide a report identifying courses that support Written Communication and other ILOs.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 PM.

Next LOAC Meeting – Wednesday, March 25, 3:30 to 5:00

Recorder: Steve Brown