

Learning Assessment Committee Meeting
Friday, Nov. 16, 2007
1-2:30 pm in T-750

Present: Vina Cera, Cheli Fossum, Evelyn Lord, Ann McMurdo, David Mitchell, Mae Frances Moore, Louis Quindlen, Elnora Webb, Wandra Williams

There will be just one more meeting this semester – three weeks from today, rather than two. Ann McMurdo informed us that she will be on sabbatical next semester, and will look into getting another counselor to take her place.

Meeting dates for next semester were proposed and accepted. They are Jan. 18, Feb. 1 and 22, Mar. 7 and 21, Apr. 11 and 25, May 9 and 23. Classes begin on Jan. 17. Flex Day is Mar. 6, a Thursday, and Spring Break runs from Mar. 24-29.

There was an update on the GE outcomes work groups. All but two of the GE outcomes are now in place, and one of these, Ethnic Studies will be meeting this afternoon, leaving only one area to be completed. We discussed the new submissions and accepted them. There was a suggestion that Margaret Traylor give a library consultation on the Information Competency outcome before it was finalized.

14 departments have turned in their assessment plans for this Fall. About 30% of Unit Plans have been turned in to date and many are in progress. Dr. Webb stated that the form was not meant to be another burdensome task, but more like a ‘copy and paste’ taken from the Program Review. The plans were needed for the Midterm Report to the Accreditation Cte. The critical part of the submission was the recommendations and the report on resources.

Much discussion centered around a resolution presented by Louis Quindlen that spoke to the Board for allocation of financial resources critically needed by the college to support its efforts in implementing the SLOs and assessments necessary to uphold the current accreditation standards.

Matters raised:

- who could help provide the statistical analysis
- we needed more than a mathematician – but a research statistician
- did we need to come up with specific financial requests – it was thought that specifics could be restricting at this point, and that a general request would be more productive
- with informed consultation, we could come up with more valid methods and samples
- there are some part-timers at Laney who have this professional background, if they could be compensated
- would the resolution have more clout if the Classified Senate would sign on – at colleges with good working models, there is dedicated faculty, along with dedicated support personnel. Wandra will bring it up to the Classified Senate president.
- the idea of a special presentation to the Board by all the coordinators was discussed as a possibility
- Our VP will do an email poll of other colleges to see if we can get some working models information

The amended resolution will be emailed for input, and then presented to the Faculty Senate next week, after which we will take it to the DAS in the hope that it will be supported by the other colleges.

The adaption of CurricuNet, which would be an enormous help to our process, seems to be bottlenecked at the Board level

The co-chair presented an approach from another college, which required that all course outlines be updated with SLOs within the next three years. The committee was asked to consider applying this requirement to Laney faculty. After much discussion, we decided that we would not currently impose such a dictum, but would keep it on the back burner for possible future implementation.

In closing, we discussed what the highest priorities would be for Spring Flex Day workshops.

- the Vocational Division is planning a workshop on Program outcomes.
- possibly, an evening workshop could be set up for part-timers who taught evenings.
- Dept. Chairs and Deans might suggest attendance to those, whose courses needed updating, that they attend
- a one-on-one-type workshop was suggested, where cte. members would work either individually or with small dept. groups, to actually leave the meeting with completed outcomes – several cte. members were amenable - some large depts. like Bus and PE could be approached

Two matters were left with us to consider for our last meeting of the semester.

1) We need to come up with more specific SLO and assessment requirements for the Spring

2) We need to formulate one other college outcome apart from the GE areas. The Accreditation Standards are requiring efforts in the

- effective citizen
- ethical values
- local, national, global responsibility
- sustainability

areas. Though we originally decided to go with only GE, we need to be in compliance with the standards outlined.