

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

Present: Vina Cera, Cheli Fossum, Jackie Graves, Ann McMurdo, David Mitchell, Mae Frances Moore, Louis Quindlen

There was a short update on the GE outcomes work groups. To date, three have met and come up with outcomes and assessments: Math, Sciences and Social Sciences. These were handed out for our perusal and will be posted on the web site. For the others, recruitment is still in progress. There have been a couple of volunteers for Business and Computer Sciences, and because of the scope of the oral, written and literature requirements of the English and ESL arena, it was determined that there should be three (one for each of the above) outcomes. It was suggested that perhaps some of the criteria for the English exit exams could be used in the composition area.

On the faculty submission of assessment plans: the co-chair has extended the deadline for another week, with the stipulation that dept. chairs make the request. What with requests for Unit Plans with the same deadlines, there has been grumbling about the heavy load of paperwork placed on departments.

Discussion on high college level standards (Bloom's Taxonomy) vs low level entry skills of students to classes (especially those without prereq's), yielded many dilemmas.:

- should instructors lower success expectations to students' lower skill levels?
  - if not, how does this reflect on their teaching skills, particularly if they're part-timers?
  - transfer level courses need to have higher criteria for students' continuing success
  - it's the "elephant" in the room, that "production" enthusiasts DON'T want to address
- We concluded that these issues needed to be discussed on a college wide level. Cheli will talk to the VP/deans about setting up some kind of criteria for SLOs, prereq issues, and most importantly, finding resources for dealing with them.

Since some areas and departments were lagging behind in completing the deadlines, we discussed whether we should relax them. It was decided to go ahead with the deadlines as originally set up, in order to show in our Self Study, that there was indeed progress and completion of the cycle along many fronts.

Except for Counseling, we were not able to get an update on the efforts in the Student Services area. It has been problematic to connect with the personnel there, and we are coming around to thinking that possibly, a separate co-chair should be set up just for Student Services, since it is difficult enough just keeping the academic side on target.

Over and over, throughout all discussions, the point kept on coming up about the dire need for having some kind of dedicated full- or part-time resources available to help us get our data, analysis, documentaion, and plans together.