



Student Learning Outcomes Committee
Meeting Notes
Thursday, September 12, 2013
Room 1317

Present: Cathy Anderson, Lena Baker, Cristina Berisso, Bob Bittner, Luke Hillyard, Ralph Perrin, Shelly Presnell, Casey Shurig
Guest: Marc Beam, Meridith Randall

Meeting called to order at 3:02 pm.

Minutes of Last Meetings: Bob Bittner moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Casey Shurig, approved without opposition. No corrections or deletions requested.

Public Comments: None

Reports: None

Discussion/Action Items:

a) ACCJC Report of 9-4-13 regarding feedback on SLO implementation. ACCJC used a rubric with a five point scale with 1 as does not meet expectations and 5 as exceeds expectations. We received some scores of 1 on ISLOs and PLOs, and 4's on SLOs. We received several scores of 3. We need to work on the items for which we scored 1. Our goal this year is to improve these scores, starting initially with PLOs and ISLOs.

b) Plan for assessing PLOs: Every program wrote PLOs which should be assessed by faculty in the program. Every two years each program will do a Program Review, but this doesn't mean they are actually assessing PLOs. We received a score of 1 in this area; we had 46%, and it takes 95% to get a 4. Hopefully by the end of this year everyone will be assessing PLOs. Marc added that they should be able to link a course SLO to a specific PLO or ISLO. Mapping of SLO assessment data to PLOs is on the SLO website page.

The framework is set up for PLOs; we need participation. It should become apparent that this is necessary as the Integrated Planning Process comes into play and budgeting is tied to this. The SLO or PLO assessment results should be tied to initiatives; there are points on the rubric for this. It is important.

GELOs are a big problem that needs to be resolved. GELOs are the PLOs for the University Studies degrees, liberal arts degree and areas of emphases, but there are no outcomes for the areas of emphases. The part of trying to improve GE is not happening, which is a shortcoming of our process that we need to improve. We have 190 GE courses in 6 different areas. Meridith suggested that maybe those in DQP could look at GELOs as they're looking at DQP, and perhaps look at the process.

The GE Committee shows some ownership for GELOs. As long as we offer the general liberal arts degree we must have GELOs. We have a two-year degree but there is nobody taking care of it. We're missing someone to own this process, which is a big gap. The GE Committee primarily looks at articulation matters. The first GE Meeting for this year is on the last Thursday of this month. It was suggested by the SLO committee to send Cathy, Shelly, Marc Beam and Meridith Randall to the next GE Committee Meeting to ask the committee to become the data owners for GELOs.

We need to come up with a cycle for assessing the 190 GE courses. There are a handful of people that have participated so the foundation is there, but closing the loop is not there. The point is to summarize the results and then make changes. The area needs to meet as a group on Flex Day to discuss needed changes.

GELO ideas:

- 1) Talk to the GE Committee
- 2) Talk to DQP Group

Perhaps between these two groups we can come up with a sustainable plan by the end of the year.

b) ISLO Projects. We have 7 ISLOs; we received an ACCJC score of 1 here too. Critical thinking is also an area of GE. We need to find out if our students in general are improving in their skills while here at S.C. We are not doing this at all currently and are seeking input and ideas on how to do this. Self reporting is OK; a survey is OK. A pre-questionnaire or test, with another questionnaire or test upon graduation could be used. During the two years they are here, we should be all about the 7 ISLOs; then assess them upon graduation.

The idea of student workshops and fun activities to support ISLOs was discussed. It was suggested that an emphasis on course work is important and coursework should improve student skills more than workshops. Roll the course level SLOs up to the ISLOs and roll those summary data. It would be good to have some assessment of everyone by the end of the year.

This Committee is the place to vet the survey questions. Look at surveys and how to use them. Bob Bittner said they already have pre and post surveys for self-efficacy in Foundational Skills and asked if we could do something similar to address all the ISLOs. Perhaps 4 questions for each area.

If you think of any fun projects that could count in any of those areas, let Cathy or Shelly know. The 'Great Debate' is a fun activity about effective communication and critical thinking.

Bob suggested that perhaps certain courses could assess a specific ISLO during a semester with a pre and post test, and another group would do another ISLO. This might also work for GELOs.

d) Flex Day and closing the Loop. This is about course level SLOs. Two hours have been set aside on Flex Day to discuss SLO data, but this is not enough time. We need to evolve from this model. If we have a whole semester to discuss SLO data, perhaps all instructors of a certain course could meet and discuss just that data; and other instructors could do another, etc. Some meaningful discussions of the classes we teach could result. Marc added that dialog is very important, but the other part of this is getting things entered into TracDat. Spring Semester would be looking at the previous spring and fall. We need more time for the fall programs. Marc said you have to be either assessing or reviewing SLOS at the beginning of the year if they are going to review in the fall and assess in the spring or vice versa. Casey Shurig said positive change has been coming out of this process; discussion is happening about improving student learning.

Bob said he wrote instructions for how to report in TracDat and would be happy to send out copies.

Marc said there needs to be more discussion about closing the loop in TracDat. They will re-send the email about how to close the loop. Faculty can use the same old survey that we have been using or enter the summary directly into TracDat.

At the next meeting we will have survey examples and talk about TracDat. This Committee will meet once a month this semester, but we should meet again in two weeks to look at survey tools and TracDat, and then once a month after that.

Meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm

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