ASSESSMENT NEWS

Changes in Assessment Practices

Course Outcome Assessment

Course outcomes assessment is conducted through Canvas. Departments have selected the outcomes that will be assessed for Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. Department chairs are currently updating the outcomes in Canvas to include the number referenced on the syllabus. They are also updating the rubric to a 5-Substantially Exceeds Expectations, 4-Exceeds Expectations, 3-Meets Expectations, 2-Nearly Meets Expectations, and 1-Does Not Meet Expectations system. You will need to load the new outcomes into your course before you can complete your course assessment 2016-17. In addition to entering your assessments into Canvas, instructors will be asked to complete an Instructor Assessment Form each semester. You can use the Learning Mastery Grade book in Canvas to view your student learning performance in each course to complete the form. Information about how to load outcomes into your course and turn on your Learning Mastery Grade Book can be found in your department's Canvas shell. You should have received an invitation to join the department course by now. If you have not received a course invitation, you can't find the information that you need, or if you have additional questions, please contact your department chair.

> **Assessment is not a measure of teaching, but of student learning.**

General Education Assessment

Artifacts will be collected for general education assessment this year. Math, Science, Public Speaking, and Humanities are scheduled for assessment. Information about outcomes and what can be used as an artifact can be found on the department Canvas course. Please submit your artifacts to your Department Chair at the end of the fall and spring semesters. Remember, artifacts should not have student or instructor names on them. Place your artifacts in an envelope with the class and instructor name on the outside to verify artifacts for your course have been submitted.

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As part of the college's Quality Assurance Project in preparing for Open Pathways Accreditation in 2020, CCCC is participating in an Assessment Academy sponsored by the Higher Learning Commission. The college's project for the academy includes transitioning course assessment into Canvas, revising our general education assessment, and implementing institutional assessment. The college joined the academy in June 2015. As a member of the academy, we have access to college's projects that are in our cohort of schools as well as all of the colleges that have been through an academy. Great strides have been made in transitioning course assessment to Canvas. The continuation of this project will be led by the college Assessment Committee, The General Education committee has begun to review the general education philosophy and will be working to update general education outcomes. The Assessment Academy Team has just completed a study of institutional assessment projects and will be developing some sample projects to share with college departments. Look for news on the progress of this project in upcoming newsletters.

Quality Assurance Project— HLC Assessment Academy

Assessment Committee

At fall in-service, Faculty voted to update the membership of the assessment committee to include a member from each academic department. The committee met 9/22/16. The group reviewed forms that have been used in previous years to report assessment data. The group decided to have all faculty submit an Instructor Assessment Form (see attached) to department chairs to record assessment activity from the semester. The group made suggestions to revise the Individual Course Assessment Report that had been used previously. The group also agreed that department reporting would be part of the program review. There was discussion about the need for a Dean's report. This report will be discussed further at the next meeting. The group discussed the timeline for submission of reports. Faculty noted that it is important to receive assessment data timely, so that reporting is done prior to preparation for the next semester. It was noted that Canvas provides faculty immediate access to assessment data. Faculty can complete their reports based on the data they can see without waiting for reports containing department data. Department data reports are important and should be distributed as soon as possible; however, that data cannot be sent out until faculty have completed assessment.

It was decided that faculty would be asked to have their reports for spring 16 data in prior to Thanksgiving break, so they can focus on fall semester reporting at the end of the semester with those reports due prior to Christmas break.

The assessment coordinator will revise the form, get spring 16 data out to departments, and provide training for faculty to review assessment data within their courses.

General Education Committee

At fall in-service, Faculty voted to update the membership of the General Education Committee to include a member from each academic department. The group met 9/1/2016 and reviewed the current general education philosophy, the general education degree requirements, and the general education outcomes and assessment system. The group discussed the change in focus of the Associate's Degree from career to transfer. In the past more students earned an Associate's Degree to get a job. Now more jobs require a Bachelor's Degree and more students are earning Associate degrees for the purpose of transferring.

The group noted that students are looking for less expensive pathway to the Bachelor's Degree. Some students attend a community college to build skill sets they are lacking both cognitive and non-cognitive. Some students expect some career exploration in their freshman and sophomore years.

The leader posed the following questions for exploration before the next meeting:

What is the purpose of CCCC's Associate degree?

What do we expect a student with an Associate's degree to know?

What do we expect a student with an Associate's degree to be able to do?