

SOC Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2008, CTL Conference Room, 3:00-4:30 pm

In Attendance

Mark Gooding, Chair; Janell Pierce, Craig Jacobsen, Ly Tran-Nguyen, Tim Florschuetz, Matt Ashcraft, Christina Santacruz Del Rosario, Dennis Mitchell.

Library Request

Mark notified the committee that the request from Chas at the library has been put on hold and was struck from the agenda.

Online Assessment Literature Review

Mark notified the committee that Naomi would not be able to attend, so there will be no online assessment literature review this meeting. He said he would contact Naomi about getting a written literature review from her to send to the committee.

Global Learning Update

Mark and Matt gave an update of the progress of the Global Learning Committee. It has met twice and has five outcome statements in the draft stage. Mark suggested getting cluster members to work on developing measure questions over the summer with a goal of piloting this assessment next year.

Looking to the Future – Scalability of the Assessment Program

Mark asked the committee to discuss the state of the Assessment program and whether any changes need to be made. Mark asked if the program is sustainable if it continues to expand with new outcomes and with online administration.

The committee discussed other options to the current program, including portfolios, class-level assessments and capstone courses.

Janell discussed her experience with a portfolio-based assessment program at Central Arizona College, but noted that she didn't get to see the final end product of that model.

Craig commented that the current system does a good job of getting numbers to show that post students perform better than pre students. He said that if that is the purpose, then the committee doesn't need to keep adding outcomes because the assessment results aren't getting plugged back in to help improve learning.

Matt commented that college-level assessment data is usually difficult to plug back in and that it is tough to make the leap down to the course level. He added that maybe the next step of MCC's program is to get this nailed down as far as closing the loop.

Mark said that he would prefer a portfolio assessment but noted that a fluid student population and a majority of non-degree seeking students would be problematic.

Ly said that the committee should explore other models of assessment.

Mark suggested examining what other schools are doing for assessment.

Tim suggested that the committee keep going with what it's doing, yet also try to get a group of students to do the portfolio.

Craig commented in the difficulty of using assessment data because assessments are run at the college level and curriculum changes take place at the district level.

Matt asked if any system is in place to review older assessments so that the committee can know if they are they still assessing what they are trying to assess.

Ly said that there is no review procedure in place, and that she's heard comments about errors on the assessments.

Matt suggested that the committee put the assessments on a comprehensive review cycle.

Mark passed out a sheet of objectives from Derek, chair-elect.

Tim asked if it would be possible to use ROC money for other purposes like CTL workshops or best practice workshops. He also mentioned giving reassign time to faculty to head the clusters because content experts should serve as heads.

Mark suggested that the committee start with reexamining the current program.

Matt described the assessment program at Glendale. They use a 40-minute nationally-normed assessment that covers three outcomes. He mentioned the possibility of using MCC faculty to collapse current assessments so that one assessment could assess multiple outcomes.

There are no more spring meeting dates for the SOC committee.