SLO and Steady

SLO News and Updates

Our Spring 2014 SLO Symposium was a success (see photos above). Representing all divisions across campus, 34 faculty members participated in this event. Amanda Ryan-Romo, Learning Assessment Coordinator at ELAC, presented an engaging report on data and dialogue. Valerie Landau from Samuel Merritt University demonstrated a unique database system to map course SLOs to program and institutional SLOs.

Some points covered during the presentations included: Are teaching practices equally effective for diverse populations? Does one size fit all? How do we know what students are learning? Do we know how they learn? Are they acquiring the skill and values needed to be successful in the “real world”? What other comparisons could we make to analyze assessment data? What other data might be needed to make sense out of the assessment results?

All students need intense and innovative support systems: learning communities, intense individual and group counseling, engaging curriculum, incentives, tutoring connected to our classes, faculty and peer-to-peer mentoring, and more. The conversation around this symposium focused on how assessment of our courses and student body will permit us to zoom in at how to develop these support systems and integrate them in the classroom.

The Student Learning Outcomes cycle is a reflection of what we can change in the classroom to improve learning, make a difference, and increase any low success rates.

Program Learning Outcomes in Catalogue: Program SLOs will be included in the next printed catalogue. Chairs will review and submit edits via email to Luis Cordova and Mary-Jo Apigo. Changes are due June 6, 2014.

Assessment Progress

Assessments from the 2012-2013 Cycle: The assessment list is getting smaller as we are making great progress. We had a successful hands-on workshop with the Business division this month. We are working to get the assessments down to 90% completed. 70 courses need to be submitted; 20 courses are in progress.

Workshop Model for Assessments: In May, we had a hands-on workshop with Business faculty. We would like to move forward and set-up hands-on workshops with all divisions. We will develop a schedule or calendar for which Division meetings we will have. At the next Divisional Council, we will pass out a schedule and have Chairs sign-up for dates. Additionally, an agenda item in division meetings will be helpful.

Institutional SLO Assessment: Fourteen faculty assessed our nine institutional SLOs and more than 100 posters were assessed. The SLO Committee will evaluate these assessments and report to the campus on the findings.

New assessments due at the end of this semester: Remember that SLO assessments are due at the end of this semester. Your chair will inform you what courses need to be assessed. Please work on those courses carefully and have fun identifying ways on how to enhance student learning and college-wide student success.

The future is bright if we are mindful in our course assessment, documentation, and implementation of interventions.

Upcoming Events

SLO Committee | 3:00-4:30 pm | Winlock | fourth Monday of the month
SLO Drop-in Hours | GC280L | Mondays from 3-5pm | Thursdays from 12-2pm | or by appointment
His contact number is 310-287-4207.

Please do not hesitate to call or see him for assistance in developing the SLO cycle.
SLO Committee

Luis Cordova, Co-Chair
Mary-Jo Apigo, Co-Chair
Kenyatta Baker
Anna Chiang
Luis Cordova
Adrienne Foster
Manish Patel
Donna Olvera
Hansel Tsai
Adriana Martinez, Resource
Aracely Aguiar, Resource

The SLO Committee reports to the Academic Senate through the Curriculum Committee.

The SLO Committee meets on the fourth Monday of the month from 3 to 4:30 pm in Winlock.

SLO News can also be accessed online at www.wlac.edu/slo.

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SLOly but Surely Assessment Calendars

We have been meeting with Chairs and received revised drafts of SLO assessment calendars. So far, we have the following 12 SLO assessment calendars finalized: Business, Economics, Family & Consumer Studies, Sociology, Computer Science & CAOT, Dance and Health, Kinesiology, Kinesiology (Athletics), Kinesiology (Major), Communication Studies, Math, and Personal Development. They are posted online at www.wlac.edu/slo/resources. We are finalizing calendars so that faculty know which courses are scheduled for assessment and when.

Note to Chairs: It is vital that the assessment calendars are completed ASAP.

Your participation is crucial. Include a schedule for all SLOs; if you are developing additional SLOs, schedule those as well.

SLO & Easy: SLO Tips

SLO Assessment Dialogue

The National School Reform Faculty has a framework for faculty reviewing and engaging in discussions about data. This resource was shared at the SLO Symposium earlier this month. The guide is organized around the following steps: (1) Getting Started, (2) Describing the Data, (3) Interpreting the Data, (4) Implications for Classroom Practice, (5) Reflecting on the Process, and (6) Debriefing the Process. View the complete handout at http://www.wlac.edu/slo/resources/documents/ATLAS-Looking_at_Data_Handout.pdf.