

**SOC Meeting Minutes**  
**March 10, 2011 – 3:00-4:30 p.m., CTL Conference Room**

In Attendance: Derek Borman, Brian Dille (MCC HLC Team), Tim Florschuetz (Co-Chair), Juan Marquez, Sam Martinez, Betty Parisek (Co-Chair), Matt Ashcraft (ORP), Dennis Mitchell (ORP).

**Assessment Week Review**

a) Update

Dennis gave a brief update on Assessment Week administration:

Outcomes assessment:

- Assessment: 65 faculty volunteers with 103 sections
- Email notices to faculty on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> – distribution was completed the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup>
- Some confusion as to when to administer and return (faculty suggested including a reprint of email in packets for additions reference for faculty missing the email).
- One faculty refused to administer the AH assessment due to the technology involved
- One faculty reported problems with AH PowerPoint, but seems to be an isolated incident.
- As of today, 72 packets have been returned (deadline is tomorrow).
  - Will send out reminder and thank you email early next week to faculty
- Usually, processing and analysis will occur over the summer with a report in the fall
- Aim to have summary of faculty submission form/comments by the last SOC meeting

CCSSE

- 78 of 98 sections have returned the survey
  - A few faculty indicated too little time to administer and returned uncompleted
- Surveys will be sent back to CCSSE for processing and analysis

Nearly 5,000 students enrolled in classes participating in either an assessment or CCSSE.

b) Bar codes/Student senate

Matt told the committee that Student Life Coordinator Meredith Warner came to him with a copy of the diversity assessment and complaints from a student. The student took issue with the use of the name and barcode sticker on the cultural diversity assessment and said that they would not truthfully answer the survey questions without anonymity. Matt discussed the reason for the use of barcodes with Meredith, stating that ORP abides by research ethics so that individual student assessment data is never reported.

Tim and Betty have been asked to attend student senate and will meet with Meredith to discuss the issue prior to student senate. In his conversations with Meredith thus far, Tim said that the barcode has not come up as much as the subject matter of the diversity assessment.

Juan asked if the purpose of the assessment is to actually have students accept diversity or just to understand diversity issues. The committee looked at the diversity outcomes and compared the outcomes statements with the questions on the instrument.

Dennis pointed out the instructions of the assessment give students the option to skip questions if they are uncomfortable.

Betty said that this is a good opportunity to evaluate the appropriateness of the tool. The committee discussed that some of the items on the assessment came across as personal values statements due to the use of "I" in some of the statements. Betty asked if SOC could just modify some of the questions to address this issue, but Tim said that they'd have to follow the full process of changing an assessment. Derek said the problem with turning the questions into third-person questions may make them softball questions.

## **HLC Update**

### a) HLC team visit

Brian provided SOC with an update of the MCC HLC team's recent trip to Chicago:

The team consists of Matt Ashcraft, Brian Dille, Tim Florschuetz, Craig Jacobsen, Jacquelyn Ormiston, Roger Yohe, and Meredith Warner. The team set up a storyboard of the details and is in the process of transforming that cloud of thought into information they can share with the rest of the college. The project the team went with is still the project they came back with. A problem is the inability to translate published outcomes into actual curricular change. He said that this is a mechanism that if we can get enough buy-in we can change that and see some impact from assessments. Instead of using a "closing the loop: analogy, the team came up a "cycle" concept.

### b) SOC's Role in the Process

Brian told the committee that one item the team discussed was a shift in the role SOC. Brian's perception of SOC is that the committee's primary role is to shepherd the student outcomes process. The team would like to have an added role of SOC to train other programs and departments around the college on how to use assessment results. He said that this will take a lot of training and will be a different mindset for many people, as the process of using outcomes results to drive strategic planning is much different than planning driven by FTSE, for example. Brian said he will harangue the departments to send more representation to SOC.

Tim said that one of the benefits of this project will be more awareness for SOC.

Matt said that the approach will need to be avoid giving departments an ultimatum, and will need to focus on achieving results through collaboration.

Betty said that there is not yet a definitive decision in the role SOC will play in this HLC project, but asked for committee input. She said there is great potential for SOC to do great things with this project.

Juan asked how the occupational programs fall into this new cycle; Brian responded that the improvement processes the MCC HLC team recommends may be modeled on much of what the occupational programs have done regarding program review and responding to student needs.

## **SOC Chair for Next Year**

The committee discussed the need for SOC chair(s) for the next year. Matt said that the chair may need to serve for a three-year term to align with the HLC project timeline. Brian said that SOC can have new chairs each year, but the new chair will need to stay updated with the project.

Derek said that the three year chair term is great in theory, but in practice it is a long time. Tim said that the people on the MCC HLC team have made a three-year commitment to travel to Chicago at least once a year. Juan said he liked the chair and co-chair concept.

Matt suggested the need for SOC to determine chairs by the next meeting. Betty indicated she is dedicated to SOC. Tim said he may be willing to give up a class next fall if needed. ORP will send out information regarding chair nominations and elections following established SOC guidelines.

Matt said that one thing they have to get across is that this project becomes what the self-study project would have been. This directly ties to accreditation and can be used to encourage more faculty members to participate in SOC.

**Future meetings**

April 14, May 5

CTL Conference Room, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.