

SOC Meeting Minutes
Oct. 14, 2010 – 3:00-4:30 p.m., CTL Conference Room

In Attendance: Emi Ahn, Derek Borman, Tim Florschuetz (Co-Chair), Juan Marquez, Betty Parisek (Co-Chair), Dennis Mitchell (ORP).

Accreditation Pilot Project: - Betty and Tim informed the committee that MCC has been selected by the Higher Learning Commission to participate in a pilot program regarding a new accreditation format. Part of the pilot will be to assess assessment; it will involve continuous evaluation of assessment instead of one period at a time like in the past.

Betty said they don't know much right now, but think the college is going to jump on the train ready or not; it will be a very labor intensive process, but it should produce great benefits to the campus.

Tim mentioned he thinks MCC was the only community college in our district invited because the assessment program won national awards.

Faculty Survey Results: The committee discussed the results of the survey SOC sent to faculty in spring 2010 regarding the assessment program; SOC decided to conduct the survey in order to learn faculty perceptions of student outcomes assessment at MCC. Only about 53% of faculty said they were moderately or extremely familiar with student outcomes at the college.

Betty said that as SOC goes through the new HLC pilot program, these may be the types of projects the committee will be working on to improve assessment.

Tim said the survey results show that faculty listed problem solving/critical thinking, communication and information literacy as the most important outcomes.

Review of Workplace Skills Assessment Instrument: The committee discussed reviewing the current workplace skills assessment instrument. Tim brought up a couple issues he saw with the instrument: some of the true and false questions on the assessment have multiple answers, and some of the language regarding technology is now very archaic compared to when the instrument was designed. He said that this cluster will need around five experts in the content areas to revise the instrument.

Betty said the committee will need a cluster of people to review the instrument and make recommendation of changes to be made, and she asked what departments should be recruited from.

Dave recommended the committee recruit at a CTE Council meeting; the council meets regularly and includes the occupational program directors.

Betty will contact Sally Kroelinger to get on the agenda of the next CTE meeting.

Juan said some items in the instrument are related to communication, and that field is not represented on the CTE Council.

Keith said that a faculty teaching technical writing may be good to have on the cluster.

Diane Bullen asked if the committee could assess both CTE and general education students with the workplace skills assessment. The committee said this could be possible.

Review of Information Literacy Assessment Instrument: Tim said that the information literacy instrument is outdated and previous cluster members agree that it needs to be updated. He also mentioned that his research found that there is a difference between information literacy and technology literacy. He showed the committee the book *Assessing Critical Skills* by Jon Mueller as well as other online examples of information literacy assessments.

Tim will take the lead on the information literacy cluster. He has 2-3 librarians interested in serving but is having difficulty recruiting English faculty.

Miscellaneous topics: The committee briefly discussed the possibility of using computer-based assessment instruments.

Betty said MCC already does what HLC wants us to do in regards to assessment and continual improvement.

Dave mentioned he feels there should be more representation from different departments on the committee.

Future meetings:

Nov. 4, Dec. 9, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, March 10, April 14, May 5
CTL Conference Room, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.