

SOC Meeting Minutes
September 17th, 2009 – 3:00-4:30 p.m., Kiva Room

In Attendance: Derek Borman (Chair), Dave Harris, Peter Brown, Sam Martinez, Jim Mabry (VPAA), Christina Santacruz Del Rosario (ORP), Dennis Mitchell (ORP)

Summary of 2008-2009: Derek provided the committee with a summary of last year's assessment activities and SOC discussions. During Assessment Week 2009, the Problem Solving assessment, the Global Awareness pilot assessment and an online pilot assessment were administered. The Office of Research and Planning (ORP) is currently looking to hire someone to conduct an analysis on the results of the Global Awareness pilot. The online pilot using Hosted Test was unsuccessful, with only a few students from the two pilot sections completing the assessment. Derek and Sam both commented on the need to get assessments into syllabi early, especially with online courses. Dave said they should start recruiting early with the department chairs and said it seemed like recruiting occurred later last year than in previous years. Derek and Jim agreed to have Derek talk at the DCA meeting, and Derek said that he and Matt Ashcraft (Dean of Research and Planning) would continue SOC outreach at department meetings.

CTL Sponsored Assessment Week: Derek informed the committee that the CTL will host an assessment-related week of events October 19-23. Shelley Rodrigo is organizing the week for the CTL, and SOC will facilitate two discussions and host one Cuppa event. Derek suggested topics for the two discussions: 1) getting faculty to address outcomes in their classrooms and 2) encouraging department level assessment. Derek asked for feedback on session titles and the committee decided to solicit input from other members absent from this meeting.

Assessment Week 2009-2020: The committee discussed the topic of "closing the loop" to have assessment results used to improve teaching and learning efforts. Sam asked if the current outcomes even apply and brought up the idea of portfolio evaluation used at some other colleges. There was brief talk about creating a faculty survey that would both raise awareness about SOC and also solicit feedback on current and/or new outcomes. Derek said he had hoped to create an ad hoc committee to work on this, but tabled the topic due to low meeting attendance.

The committee moved onto a discussion of the Workplace Skills assessment and recent low participation. Derek mentioned that Jon D' Ambrosio used to be a SOC member and helped recruit faculty teaching occupational classes. Dave made the comment that workplace skills isn't necessarily confined to occupational students, and that all students generally need workplace skills.

Derek introduced the idea of conducting student focus groups as an alternative/supplementary assessment protocol.

New Directions: The committee briefly discussed the following items, but held further discussion for future meetings:

- Creating an ad hoc committee to review the Information Literacy assessment
- Creating a special SOC newsletter to highlight best practices by example
- Looking into creating a Technology Literacy assessment
- Changing the Assessment Week Results Report to be more usable and reader friendly