

COMMITTEE FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

MINUTES

Date: October 23, 2020

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Chair: Gary Yarbrough

Recorder: Jessica Tippy

In Attendance

Ginger Berry, Mike Fisher, Dr. Jamie Frakes, Brenda Holifield, Ron, Hutto, Ryan Perkins, Shauna Winchester, and Dr. Gary Yarbrough

Establishment of Quorum/Welcome & Announcements

Dr. Yarbrough called the meeting to order and the quorum was established. There were no announcements.

Approval of Prior Minutes

Ms. Winchester made a motion to accept the minutes from September 9, 2020, as written with Ms. Holifield seconding.

Motion carried.

Member Terms

Dr. Yarbrough presented the following changes to the CASL committee structure:

1. Director of Student Services was added due to co-curricular assessment
2. 1 additional faculty member from the Allied Tech Division for a total of 6 faculty representatives from the three divisions with 2-year terms

Ms. Berry added that it should be made clear that faculty can serve more than 2 years.

Ms. Holifield made a motion to accept the new committee structure with Mr. Hutto seconding.

Motion carried.

Assessment Handbook Updates

Dr. Yarbrough postponed this item until the next meeting.

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Information Literacy Report

Dr. Yarbrough followed up regarding the Citing Sources action plan. He stated that he had reached out to faculty that contributed data to the Citing Sources component for updated data from this fall on the effect that the improvement changes have had. The distributed report is the completed Information Literacy Report excluding the summary for the action plan results. A few minor changes were noted:

- The word “data” was added to pages 4, 6, and 7 for clarity
- On page 9, the reference to an external rater group was removed as faculty members understand their KPIs the best whereas a committee may not. When asked about concerns, the committee members did not see any issues with faculty continuing to evaluate the data.
- On page 10, additional word changes for clarity
- On page 11, the process improvement section was clarified and follow-up actions were added.

Ms. Holifield made a motion to accept the report as final with Mr. Fisher seconding.

Motion carried.

Quantitative Reasoning Report

Dr. Yarbrough discussed the Quantitative Reasoning report. The data for the report was collected in Spring 2019 – Fall 2019. The report outline is similar to past reports.

In table 1 it was noted that most math courses were in the reinforce category. Dr. Yarbrough asked the committee their thoughts on if a math course could be both introduce and reinforce. Ms. Berry discussed how she compares the beginning and ending skill level in Math Apps for Allied Health by using medical math activities throughout the course although not all students are at the same mastery level. Dr. Yarbrough recommended revisiting the course mapping to ensure the classification is correct.

The remaining tables were discussed and all were consistent although the general skill level is mainly 0-1 level. Based on the adapted rubrics, one should expect to see students performing on levels one and two as consistent will community college level. However, he noted that ANC students tend to be weak in math. Ms. Fisher asked if HLC would look at how students are scoring and Dr. Yarbrough stated that HLC would mainly be concerned if all scores were extremely low and the College saw no issue. Ms. Holifield added that a narrative documenting College benchmarks and the reasoning behind them would be helpful as you would not want to

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set the benchmarks so high to where they are unattainable. Dr. Yarbrough stated that the score could be impacted by the KPIs that are used as some may not give the possibility of scoring a 3 to 4 level.

Dr. Yarbrough expressed concern regarding the “Communicate & defend results” sub-component as the report shows that there are no courses in which the information is introduced only reinforced which could contribute to the low performance. Ms. Holifield asked how the mapping was done and Dr. Yarbrough replied that it was based on input from the faculty but that mapping can be modified.

Ms. Tippy noted that Math for Teachers I was not listed as an assessed course whereas Math for Teachers II is. Dr. Yarbrough replied that he would look into that. After additional discussion regarding Business Calculus and Statistics, Dr. Yarbrough noted that in the past it was accepted that a course would be mapped to an ILO only if 50% or more of the rubric applied.

Ms. Holifield recommended adding a summary page to the report showing all charts together. The action plan section was discussed as input from the faculty will be needed. Ms. Holifield recommended checking to see if courses were correctly identified as introduced or reinforced before proceeding.

Co-curricular Assessment

Dr. Yarbrough stated that he would follow up with Ms. Fisher and report back at the next meeting as she was not at the meeting. Ms. Fisher is identifying 3 to 5 activities to evaluate during phase assessment. Dr. Yarbrough stated that other co-curricular activities are happening within academic divisions and should be reviewed also for inclusion.

Division Assessment Reports

Allied Health – Ms. Holifield

The Allied Health division met on September 21 and are working on the following:

- Refocusing on the current cycle. This semester the division will be catching up on formal assessment reports and updating report templates.
- The divisional co-curricular assessment was discussed. Each program was asked to submit 1 co-curricular activity, which includes:
 - Dental Assisting – Mission of Mercy (MOM)
 - ADN – Le Bonheur tour (the Spring 2020 class will be surveyed as well)

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- Clubs – students will be able to participate in activities in which they will be able to choose 2 learning outcomes from a list of global outcomes.
- Program updates were given. It was noted in the Dental Assisting program that students did better on their skill check-offs in smaller groups than in previous semesters and the smaller group concept will be incorporated into future classes.
- Incomplete grades were discussed.

Arts & Sciences – Mr. Perkins

The Arts & Sciences division has met within the last 2 weeks and are working on the following:

- Incomplete grades were discussed.
- Planning dates for the next assessment phase.
- The English faculty are reviewing KPIs relating to “opposing viewpoints”.
- The Fine Arts faculty are adding additional activities to help prepare students for final performances, such as speeches.
- Discussing various Zoom teaching methods.
- The history faculty are addressing their concern with student’s technical writing ability.
- Mr. Morris is adding more formatives to his classes throughout the semester.

Allied Technologies – Dr. Frakes

Dr. Frakes stated that the Allied Tech division has a meeting scheduled for October 23rd at 11:30 a.m. The following will be discussed:

- Co-curricular activities
- Graduate/employer surveys
- Reviewing KPIs

Other Business

Dr. Yarbrough asked if anyone from the committee would like to serve as a voting member for the Arkansas Association for the Assessment of Collegiate Learning (AAACL). Ms. Holifield recommended Dr. Yarbrough to be ANC’s representative. Dr. Yarbrough stated that AAACL waived membership dues this year for colleges and is looking to do free virtual workshops.

Ms. Holifield made a motion for Dr. Yarbrough to serve as a voting member for AAACL with Mr. Fisher seconding.

Motion carried.

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Next meeting date: TBA

Ms. Berry made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Dr. Frakes seconding.

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m.