

# Minutes

## **Committee for the Assessment of Student Learning**

3/13/2018

2:00 p.m.

B108

**Committee Members Present:** Ginger Berry, Steve Crosskno, Deanita Hicks, Brenda Holifield, Ron Hutto, Robin Singleton (Committee Chair), Shauna Winchester

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** June Walters, Deborah

**Committee Members Absent:** Gene Bennett, Tamatha Brassfield, Tonya Pankey, Stacey Walker, Gary Yarbrough

### **Agenda Item 1: Approval of February 9, 2018 Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Robin Singleton. The minutes for the February 9, 2018 meeting were submitted for approval. A motion was made by Brenda Holifield and seconded by Ron Hutto to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried and the minutes were approved as presented.

### **Agenda Item 2: AA/AGS Program Learning Outcomes**

Deanita Hicks reported that the ad hoc committee to develop program learning outcomes (PLOs) for the AA/AGS degrees was formed with the following members: Lance Morris – Chairman (Science), Jillian Hartley (Social Sciences), Emily Thomasson (Math), Lanice Samford (English/Literature), and Holt Brasher (Fine Arts). Deanita shared the preliminary outcomes for some of the areas that have been developed so far. (See Appendix A) Committee members reviewed the PLOs and made suggestions for improvement. Deanita hopes to have the final document for the next CASL meeting.

### **Agenda Item 3: Assessment Feedback Rubric**

Robin presented the Assessment Feedback Rubric (Meta-Assessment Rubric) that the ad hoc committee developed. The response to the rubric was positive. After some discussion, it was decided that Robin would ensure that all sections of the rubric are in the same format, email the changes to the ad hoc committee for their final approval, and email the document to faculty members for their feedback. June Walters will call a faculty meeting, which the ad hoc committee members will facilitate, for the purpose of training faculty to use the tool as an aid in working toward developing exemplary learning outcomes, assessment plans, and assessment reports.

### **Agenda Item 4: Phase 2 Course Success Rates**

Robin referred the members to the course success rate worksheets for the Phase 2 courses that she emailed to the members prior to the meeting. These worksheets included success rates, grade distributions, and number of withdrawals by course for the three-year period ending with

# Minutes

the 2016-2017 academic year. These revised worksheets included changes requested by the members in a previous meeting. Mrs. Walters stated that the reasons for withdrawal would be more useful if the broad categories for which the faculty could have an impact were broken down into more meaningful subcategories. Robin agreed to ask Rosemary Lowe for this information.

## **Agenda Item 5: Communication Fluency Statistics**

Robin presented the assessment results for Communication Fluency, the institutional learning outcome that was assessed in Phase 1 of this assessment cycle. The report included results for 24 courses, nine courses in which the communication fluency criteria were introduced and 15 courses in which the criteria were reinforced, as designated by the faculty members teaching the respective courses. The largest percent of students scored at level two in all five criteria. In the five criteria, the percent of students scoring two or above was greater in the “Reinforce” courses as compared to the “Introduce” courses, as would be expected, with the exception of one criteria. It was noted, however, that the sample size was exceptionally low, as compared to all other sample sizes, for the “Introduce” criteria in which the percent of students scoring two or above was greater than the “Reinforce” students scoring two or above. This is most likely the reason for the anomaly.

It was decided that the statistics would be shared with faculty during the faculty meeting mentioned above. It was also decided that the method for writing the assessment report for Communication Fluency will be decided at a later date.

## **Agenda Item 6: Division Assessment Meeting Reports**

Brenda reported on the Allied Health assessment meeting that was held on February 20, 2018. She stated that the data sharing centered on each department’s course data from the previous fall semester and program data from the previous year’s graduates. A copy of the minutes from the meeting are forthcoming and will be appended to this document at that time.

Deanita stated that she plans to share the results of her division assessment meeting at the next CASL meeting.

## **Agenda Item 7: Other Business**

Due to schedule conflicts of some CASL members, it was decided that the next regularly scheduled meeting would be moved from April 13 to April 20 at 9:00.

Robin reminded everyone of the upcoming AAACL spring conference in Searcy and said that it was not too late to register.

With there being no further business, Ginger Berry made a motion which was seconded by Deanita to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m.

## Appendix A

### Arts and Sciences Committee to Study and Develop Program Learning Outcomes

**Chairperson:** Lance Morris

**Members:** Lance Morris (Science), Jillian Hartley (Social Sciences), Emily Thomasson (Math), Lanice Samford (English/literature), Holt Brasher (the Fine Arts).

**Science:** Students will demonstrate the ability to acquire, apply, and synthesize knowledge while developing critical thinking, problem-solving, and research skills.

#### **Social Sciences:**

Students who complete social science courses toward an Associate of Arts degree should demonstrate

- An understanding of major ideas, values, beliefs, and experiences that have shaped human history and community.
- An understanding of the nature of the individual and relationship between the self and the community.
- An understanding of the range of methods by which the social sciences study individuals, cultures, and societies.

**Fine Arts:** Students in the Fine Arts program will be able to demonstrate a proficiency in their ability to acquire, create, and produce various forms of art, ranging from acting, musical, and visual arts while developing skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and presentation.

This initial meeting was by email and discussions among two or more members to begin finalizing the process. After Lance receives all the PLOs, he will call a formal meeting for the committee for discussion and polishing, and then the entire division will meet to formalize the Program Learning Outcomes for Arts and Sciences. We have projected that we will have this finalized for presentation to the committee by the end of the Spring 2018 semester.

We also need to have as one of our Program Learning Outcomes that students earning a transfer degree actually transfer to a four year institution, but we also need to find a way to document or track this information.