Southwestern College

ACADEMIC SENATE

Academic SLO Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2008
3:00pm-4:30pm, Room 104

Minutes

I.   SLO Summer update
    A. eLumen: Veronica checked with Gary Vanvoorhis who confirmed that we have budgeted for purchase of eLumen for Mapping, which means it provides documentation and public access to SLOs and their assessment results by course and program. This is a web based computer program that can house SLOs and their assessment results. This product uses a rubric basis for assessment. The Mapping document is a table that shows the SLO, assessment, assessment results, and provides for documenting the resulting modifications to the course or program.
    To Do: Veronica is following up with Gary Vanvoorhis and Dr. Meadows, the new VP of Academic Affairs to organize the inservice training by eLumen staff of our college personnel this fall. We will then offer Staff Development trainings in both the use of eLumen and rubrics as assessment tools.
    B. SLOs on Web timeline is for completion fall 2008.
    To Do: Patti and George will meet to finalize website information and format for review by the SLO committee.
    C. Program SLOs timeline for completion fall 2008.
    D. D. 08-09 SLO Plan: Goal is to "Close the Loop" on SLOs during spring and fall 2009. "Close the Loop" refers to the SLO cycle that includes:
        1. Identification of SLOs

2. Implementation of SLOs
3. Assessment of SLOs
4. Review of assessment results and resultant modifications/adjustments of instruction and/or service with the goal to improve SLOs in the next term.
5. Cycle loops back up to step 1.

E. During August Veronica prepared a correction of ARC SLO report sent in April 2008. It included the progress to date for Student Services SLOs which were left off the April report. It also updated the SLOs by course and included the work by Viara on Administrative SLOs.

Dr. Chopra requested an update on SLO progress. Val prepared an SLO info packet for Dr. Chopra. Patti, Veronica, and Viara met with Dr. Chopra to educate him on SLOs and our progress to date. It is unclear whether the meeting was productive or not.
TO DO: Val will email out the materials that were included in the packet for Dr. Chopra to SLO committee members.

F. Administrative Unit Outcomes: Viara reports that all AUOs are completed. These are different than SLOs and do not reflect student outcomes.

II. Fall 2008

A. **Staff Development**: Patti, George and Eva Hedger will offer training on writing SLOs by course and program beginning in **Oct. on Tuesday, Oct. 21 and Wed., Oct. 22 from 2pm-4pm.** Additional trainings will be offered in Oct./Nov. and Spring 2008.

B. Course SLOs: In July we were at 50% Completion of SLOs. Patti emailed all chairs a request that SLOs be placed on the course Syllabi this fall with measurement at the end of the semester.

SLO Contest: Winners were Child Development and Administration of Justice for completing SLOs by course first in the large and medium/small discipline categories.

C. Program SLOs: (See Below)
D. Student SWC email address: Patti asked the committee to consider making a request that the college develop now the electronic capability to assign an SWC student email address to each matriculated student. This would:
1. Provide a method to communicate with all our students.
2. Students would be responsible to check their college email and respond to communications.
3. Provide our students with experience in web-based communication that is found at four-year colleges.
4. Provide faculty and programs with the ability to survey students, monitor progress, communicate success or with those students struggling to provide intervention.
5. Provide for direct communication for assessment of SLOs.

Next Meeting: September 30, 3:00pm-4:00pm in room 104.

Program SLOs

During the meeting Patti suggested that we broaden the Program SLOs we developed last spring by using the data elements requested for Academic Program Review and consider the following:

Upon completion of required coursework for a program of study, the desired Student Learning Outcome is

1. receipt of the identified Associate level degree or certificate or license or confirmation of transfer to an accredited four-year college/university.
2. verification of employment in a job (full-time or tracked until full-time is obtained)
3. receipt of the identified Bachelor level degree from an accredited four-year college/university.

Definitions will be the same as the data elements for Program Success in Academic Program Review. In this way we integrate SLOs with current requested Program Outcome data in Academic Program Review.

During this semester program faculty could identify program outcomes specific to their discipline. would work with research staff to identify variables to consider that could impact data collection or program completion. These could be used to gather more detailed cause/effect information that impacts outcomes. For example, students who do not complete identified programs of study in a "timely" way could be surveyed to identify problems and interventions to facilitate completion.

Valerie reminded the group of the April 25 and May 6 Minutes that reflect the following:
Next Steps for Consultation on Program SLOs: This fall 2008 Patti will bring our overarching Program SLOs to Curriculum Committee, Dept. Chairs, and Senate. Joel will bring them to Dean's Council. Mary Wylie said she was doing vocational for her programs.

The following are the Program SLOs for Basic Skills, General Education/Associate Degree/Certificate, and Transfer:

Core Competencies included in the SLOs:
Communication
Thinking and Reasoning
Information Competency
Global Awareness

PROGRAM SLOs:
Upon completing the program (Basic Skills or Associates Degree or Transfer or Certificate program) the desired Student Learning Outcome is to:
1. Research and critically analyze data, information, and ideas and communicate this analysis in the form of a written document or oral presentation.

2. Complete requisite courses with a major emphasis and have sufficient communication, thinking, reasoning, information competency, and global awareness to qualify for: Basic Skills completion or Associates Degree or Transfer or Certificate.

TO DO: SLO Committee members will review websites of other colleges for program SLO examples.