

General Education Assessment

Project Overview

College-wide Meeting

Deerwood Center

October 23, 2008



Assessment Initiative

- Five general education learning outcomes were identified by a statewide task force
 - Communication
 - Critical Thinking
 - Information Literacy
 - Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning
 - Global Sociocultural Responsibility
- At the state level, we agreed to begin to develop plans to assess our students' performance in each of these competency areas while we still have the freedom to define what these plans will look like.
- SACS also requires us to include data regarding our students' performance and our use of this data to improve our general education program as a part of our institutional reporting.

Formative Steps (2007-2008)

- Explored various models of assessment that have been used by other institutions
 - Testing (MAPP piloted Spring 2008)
 - E-portfolio
 - Curriculum-embedded
 - Capstone
- Definitions developed for each of the five learning outcomes
- Rubrics for the assessment of the Communication outcomes developed

Objectives for 2008-2009

Objective #1: Refine the definitions for the remaining 4 learning outcomes

- Updated based upon SharePoint feedback in October 2008

Objectives for 2008-2009

Objective #2: Develop rubrics for the remaining 4 learning outcomes

- Task for today's breakout groups
- Drafts will be posted online for faculty feedback

Objectives for 2008-2009

Objective #3: Implement 3 pilots for Communication in Spring 2009

- Capstone and E-portfolio pilots are currently in development.
- Those interested in the E-Portfolio pilot should contact Professor Chris Twiggs for further information.
- There will be a call for proposals for a curriculum-embedded pilot as well. Proposal guidelines will be disseminated in November.

Objectives for 2008-2009

Objective #4: Engage in a rubric validation process to determine the usability of the Communication rubrics before their use in the assessment of artifacts from the Spring pilots

- A volunteer opportunity

Objectives for 2008-2009

Objective #5: Convene a team of assessors who will use the faculty-developed rubrics to assess the artifacts collected from the Communication pilots

- Team will be interdisciplinary and made up of FCCJ faculty and potentially other FCCJ representatives or community representatives
- A volunteer opportunity

Objectives for 2008-2009

Objective #6: Review the pilot results and report results to the statewide task force in June 2009, as well as include data from the pilots in our interim report for SACS

Objectives for 2008-2009

- Objective #7: Use the data from the pilots to strategize about quality improvements at the programmatic level that could lead to greater student success in this competency area and to determine which assessment methods would be most appropriate for the assessment of Communication

Objectives for 2008-2009

- Objective #8: Determine the assessment methods that will be most appropriate for the assessment of each of the learning outcomes and establish a timeline for the cyclical review of each outcome.

Why Are We Doing This?

- Accountability
- Opportunity to develop a faculty-driven assessment process that reflects the needs, mission, and goals of our institution
- Taking the next step in our general education review process that took place in 2003
- Promoting student success at our institution and beyond

The Process

- This year, we will report on Communication, and we will report on one outcome each year thereafter until all have been reported.
- It is a cyclical and recursive process.
- A combination of assessment methods may be used for each learning outcome so that we will have a fuller and more comprehensive understanding of our students' performance.
- The long-term goal is to create a systematic and dynamic process to assess students' achievement in the general education program so that we can enhance student learning.

How You Can Help

You can help us in two key ways as we move forward in this process:

1. Lending your professional expertise and knowledge of our students and institution so that we can develop an assessment plan that best “fits” FCCJ.
2. Doing subcommittee work that will allow us to move from this formative stage into implementation of the ongoing assessment process.

Next College-wide Meeting

- In November, we will bring the college-wide GEA meetings to the campuses to facilitate greater faculty participation. A formal invitation will be sent out once all dates and times are confirmed.

Resources

General Education Assessment Web Site:

http://www.fccj.edu/campuses/mccs/instruction/liberal_arts/general_education_assessment.html

Today's Task

- Development of draft rubrics for the 4 remaining learning outcomes.
- Self-select your breakout group

Room Assignments

Critical Thinking: F1604

Information Literacy: F1605

Global Sociocultural Responsibility: F1607

Scientific Reasoning: F1600

Quantitative Reasoning: B1204