

SOAC 2013-14 Annual Report

With the creation of the Student Learning Coordinator role to facilitate a process, which includes entire disciplines, for the development of Common Course Outcomes, Assessment Plans and Benchmarks, Oakland Community College begins to complete its assessment activities. This year 100% of the courses with Student Learning Coordinators created all required Common Course Outcomes. This represents 216 OCC courses and those courses with the highest enrollment and/or on the General Education Distribution List. This equated to 738 credit hours and 25.42% of all credit hours needing Common Course Outcomes. Establishment of Assessment Plans and Benchmarks is underway and anticipated to be complete by the end of the academic year.

However, this area also causes great concern. Several disciplines did not respond to the SLC postings and that work has yet to be accomplished. The next round of requirements is only going to compound this issue.

I am also greatly concerned about the integrity with which faculty may approach the established assessment activities. The current atmosphere of mistrust at the college hinders our progress in assessment.

SOAC also continued to perform its established functions of program and general education assessment oversight. This included review of program status and approval of refinements to general education outcome rubrics, including most recently, Effective Communication—Oral.

In an effort to support SOAC's responsibility to maintain the General Education Distribution List, SOAC moved for the creation of an adhoc committee to review the impacts of the Michigan Transfer Agreement on OCC program, degree and certification requirements.

The office of Curriculum and Student Learning has spent significant effort enhancing the ARTIS system, which will soon be available for SLC access.

Assessment Days incorporating both program and general education were held in September and March. The conference style sessions have covered various topics. Disciplines were also able to schedule optional afternoon sessions to focus on their assessment planning. The fall assessment day had 226 attendees and the winter session was attended by 127 faculty and adjunct faculty.

The essay contest had few submissions attributed to the complexity of the prompt; hence, only one honorable mentionable prize was awarded. The OCC foundation already approved funding for the 2014-2015 essay contest. A more accessible prompt has already been developed and is in final revision. It will be e-mailed to all faculty encouraging them to incorporate this prompt into their courses.

SOAC activities are ongoing. This summer a study for the purpose of our institutional perspective on the relationships between Common Course Outcomes and the General Education

Outcomes is underway. There is also a concerted effort to fill all Student Learning Coordinator positions, several of which still remain unfilled.