



It was another busy year for SOAC, with a number of things accomplished to help the college move forward towards a stronger culture of assessment. Following is a highlight of SOAC's work during 2009-2010.

### **Faculty Assessment Day**

The 2010 Faculty Assessment Day (FAD) held on Friday, March 26 and Saturday, March 27, had 140 participants. The focus was on six General Education outcomes: aesthetic awareness, communicate effectively (speaking), global understanding and responsibility, information literacy, personal development, and social responsibility. The FAD participants gave the general education facilitators excellent reviews and also made valuable suggestions to improve the general education rubrics. The general education rubrics developed by the faculty are posted for faculty use at <http://www.oaklandcc.edu/assessment/>.

### **General Education Outcomes**

The general education facilitators have been working on developing and/or refining rubrics, conducting workshops, and building professional learning communities (PLCs) around their particular general education outcome. Ten general education outcome PLCs are now active and are accessible through Sharepoint at <http://occsharing/plc/default.aspx>.

The general education facilitators for 2009-2010:

- Aesthetic Awareness – Bob Anderson
- Communicate Effectively Speaking – Mary Moon
- Communicate Effectively Writing – Leslie Roberts
- Critical Thinking – Karen Robinson
- Global Understanding and Responsibility – Preetha Ravikumar
- Information Literacy – Suzanne Labadie
- Personal Development – Vicki McNiff
- Social Responsibility – Patrick O'Connor

### **2009-2010 Student Essay Competition**

The theme for this year's essay was based on aesthetic awareness. Bob Lamphear (HL English) chaired the subcommittee who evaluated the essays. OCC's writing, critical thinking and aesthetic awareness rubrics were used as the assessment tools. Students received information about the contest through e-mails, faculty, the libraries, postings on campuses, and a website, [www.oaklandcc.edu/essay](http://www.oaklandcc.edu/essay). Funding for the prizes was provided by the OCC Foundation.

Ninety-three essays were submitted and 82 met the criteria. After the assessment was completed, all students were offered the opportunity to see their evaluations and to meet with Professor Lamphear to go over their work. The winners will be recognized and receive their prizes at the May 18, 2010 Foundation Board Meeting.

### **Program Assessment**

We are pleased to announce that ALL programs have an assessment plan in place. In addition, the program assessment facilitators in conjunction with the Office of Assessment and Effectiveness (OAE) have updated the criteria for program assessment. All criteria and plans are maintained in a comprehensive database ARTIS and are available to all program contacts, facilitators, deans and presidents from their desktop. In addition, information about program assessment and all program plans can be found at <http://www.oaklandcc.edu/assessment/>.

We will be hosting our first Program Assessment Day on June 18, 2010 at the Auburn Hills campus.

The program assessment facilitators for 2009-2010 include:

- Lin Armitage
- Kim Ball
- Diane Hill
- Karen Lee
- Gail Mays

### **Assessment Website:**

A totally revamped assessment website is up and running. The site offers a number of resources such as, reports/analysis on student learning within the general education outcomes, general education outcome rubrics, program assessment plans and findings, variety of helpful classroom assessment techniques, as well as a comprehensive section on student learning assessment terminology. To view this information visit: [www.oaklandcc.edu/assessment](http://www.oaklandcc.edu/assessment).

### **Professional Development**

During the 2009-10 academic year (as of April 2010) we have completed 21 assessment workshops covering a wide variety of issues, with a total of 251 participants.

### **Future**

Under their guidance of SLA, SOAC is working with CRC and the Curriculum committee to streamline processes and enhance communication flow between the committees.

Our last two general education outcomes, quantitative literacy and scientific literacy, will be addressed during the 2010-2011 school year. FAD 2011 has been scheduled for Friday, March 25, 2011 and Saturday, March 26, 2011.

Over the last year, we have been closely working with the Higher Learning Commission and believe that we are on the right track as we continue to shift to local development of direct and indirect measurement of student learning. SOAC intends to be transparent in all of our findings and to work with faculty, administration, and staff to build a culture that uses assessment findings to improve student learning.

I'm pleased to announce that Leslie Roberts (OR English) will be the SOAC chair for 2010-2011.

I would like to thank members of SOAC for raising questions and sharing insights as we discussed the best and most efficient way to address student learning assessment at OCC. Also a special thank you needs to be given to our General Education Outcome and Program Facilitators; they have made a positive contribution toward our goal of building a culture of assessment. Special recognition needs to be given to Marty Orlowski, Director of OAE, and to his staff. The work that has been accomplished could not have been done without them.

Let me conclude by stating that it has been a privilege to serve as SOAC chair. I have learned a great deal, and I am honored that a committee filled with such dedicated faculty and staff would have allowed me to be chair.

Vicki Kloosterhouse  
SOAC Chair