



COLLEGE OF MARIN ACADEMIC SENATE

March 2012

ON WARNING AGAIN...

As you have no doubt heard, College of Marin has been put on Warning again by our accrediting agency, ACCJC/WASC. We have until October 2012 to address all of our recommendations (don't know why they call them that...) and in reality, since reports have to be written and vetted through governance, we basically have this semester. College-wide - our assignments include: Completing and implementing a Technology Plan and a Facilities Plan, writing our next three-year Strategic Plan, making a Distance Education Plan (Thank you to all who filled out the DE Survey!), and addressing major deficits regarding student services and library services for evening, IVC and online students. You will notice I did NOT mention SLOs. That is because we are not on warning for SLOs YET.

The deadline for proficiency with Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) is October 2012. Yes - that's the same deadline we have for everything else...

Even if we DO address successfully all the recommendations above, if we do NOT do the work for SLOs, we will not be out of hot water. This deadline has been looming for quite awhile and we have made a lot of progress towards meeting it. But we have much more to do. Student Learning Outcomes are in the purview of FACULTY - not staff or administration. THEREFORE, the ball is in our court on this one.

I would like to commend all faculty who have committed themselves to updating course outlines and degrees; who have filled out the SLO assessment matrices that link General Education, Degree/Certificate and Course Level SLOs so that you can cover all three in a single assessment.

In the pages that follow, we have outlined where we are and where we need to go over the next two and a half months. In coming weeks, we will be updating you and giving you more information on the common rubrics and the SLO tracking tool.
--Sara McKinnon

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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES UPDATE

From the College of Marin Student Learning Outcomes Council (SLOAC)

We have just received notice from WASC that we will be expected to submit a report by fall 2012 demonstrating that we have achieved proficiency status in student learning outcomes. Yikes!!!

According to the ACCJC rubric for evaluating whether institutions are meeting SLO requirements, here is what proficiency means:

- Student learning outcomes and authentic assessment are in place for courses, programs and degrees.
- There is widespread institutional dialogue about the results of assessment and identification of gaps.
- Decision-making includes dialogue on the results of assessment and is purposefully directed toward aligning institution-wide practices to support and improve student learning.
- Appropriate resources continue to be allocated and fine-tuned.
- Comprehensive assessment reports exist and are completed and updated on a regular basis.
- Course student learning outcomes are aligned with degree student learning outcomes.
- Students demonstrate awareness of goals and purposes of courses and programs in which they are enrolled.

This AS NEWS update is only going to address the first bullet: *Student learning outcomes and authentic assessment are in place for courses, programs and degrees*. We'll get to the others later in the semester. The first bullet means every one of the courses we offer, and every degree or certificate we offer must have SLOs and we must be assessing them on a regular cycle. We need to have SLOs and assessments for:

- 1) Degrees and certificates
- 2) General Education and college wide indicators of success
- 3) All credit courses

So, let's take a look at what we have done thus far and what we are planning to do this semester.

General Education and College-wide SLOs

So far we have:

- Layered the GE and College-wide SLOs with the Degree/Certificate SLOs so that disciplines only have to fill out the one matrix per degree. This means you can test GE/College-Wide and also be testing Degree/Certificate using the same matrix, the same rubric and the same tracking tool – even if teachers use different assignments. It's very clever and very efficient – (thank you Sara McKinnon)
- 28 of the 59 degree matrices have been created and given to disciplines.
- Filled out about twelve of the matrices for the over 59 degrees that we offer.

Degrees and Certificates

So far we have:

- Added SLOs to our degrees and certificates – we still have about eleven out of 59 degrees without SLOs
- Created a matrix for reporting what are degree and/or certificate SLOs are and how and when we are going to assess them. We've done this for every degree with SLOs.
- Created common rubrics for assessing:
 - Critical Thinking/Problem Solving,
 - Quantitative Reasoning for the physical sciences
 - Quantitative Reasoning for Life & Earth, and Social Sciences
 - Oral Communication
 - Written Communication
 - Information Literacy
- Developed a tracking tool so we can all put our findings from the common rubrics into a common, college-wide database
- Prepared an inventory of all our degree programs and how many students have gotten the degrees since fall 2006
- Asked departments to deactivate degrees they are not intending to assess – if you want to see a list of the degrees on file for your program, please email yolanda.bellisimo@marin.edu
- Worked with departments to prepare the matrix for the degrees they are keeping
- Used the rubrics in several of the degree programs

For rubrics and tracking tool, please see: <http://marin.edu/com/ODP/SLOTrackingTool.htm>

Course Level SLOs

Our report to WASC, at the very least, has to say that all of our courses have SLOs in the Course Outline of Record and that they are being assessed periodically.

Any course that is not updated and/or does not have SLOs must have revisions submitted to the Curriculum Committee by May 1, 2012. Courses not under revision by that date will not be offered spring semester 2013.

We are also asking that departments hold at least one meeting spring semester 2012 to discuss SLOs for courses that have been or will be assessed spring semester. Discussions can include the results of assessments, SLO rubrics, pedagogy, or strategies for helping students meet the program's outcomes.

The findings from these assessments do not need to be reported outside the department. However, WASC wants to know that we are carrying on the conversation. So we ask that your department keep a simple summary sheet or notes from the department meetings.

Out of date courses

COM has a total of 1,155 courses of which, as of February 27th, 445, or 39%, were last updated sometime between 1988 and 2007. **Of these, 229 are from before 2004.** Our table lists the discipline, the number of courses in the discipline, the number updated before 2008, the number of courses currently under Curriculum Committee review, and the percent of outdated classes for that discipline. The list is sorted by the percent outdated as of March 5th. **Many of you are already working hard on your updates. We will post an updated list at the beginning of April.**

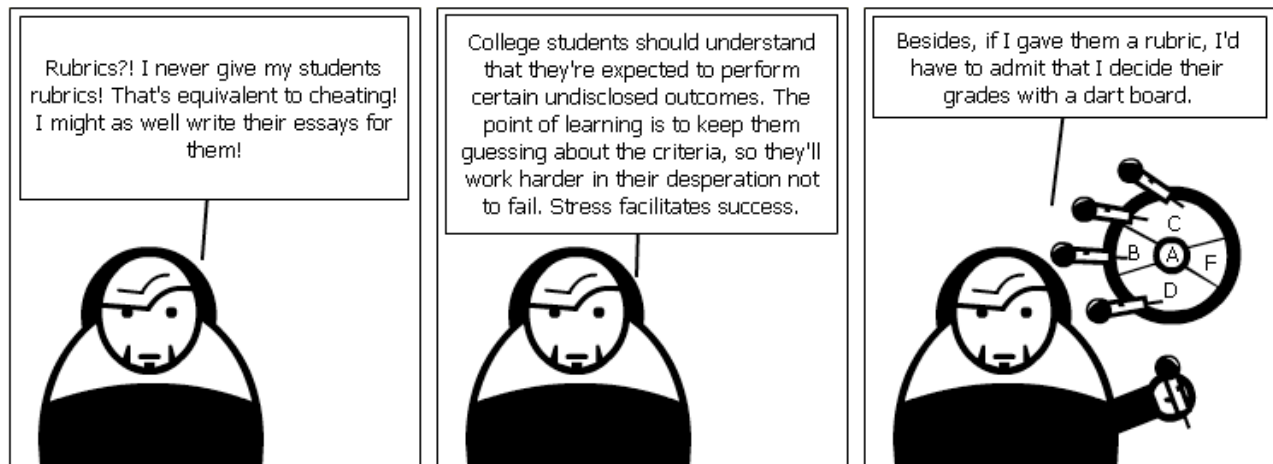
Discipline	Total # of Courses	# last updated before 2008	# In Progress	Percent Outdated
Automotive Collision Repair Technology	28	0	1	0%
Behavioral Science	5	0	0	0%
Economics	4	0	0	0%
Education	2	0	0	0%
Electronics Tech.	3	0	4	0%
ESL (non-credit)	14	0	0	0%
ESL (vocational)	8	0	0	0%
Ethnic Studies	8	0	1	0%
French	11	0	0	0%
History	18	0	4	0%
Sociology	7	0	0	0%
Automotive Technology	25	1	0	4%
Court Reporting	34	2	5	6%
Political Science	15	1	2	7%
Psychology	14	1	3	7%
Health Education	11	1	0	9%
Italian	11	1	0	9%
ESL (credit)	26	3	0	12%
Spanish	21	3	3	14%
Counseling	6	1	0	16%
Dance	44	8	0	18%
Dental Assisting	26	5	0	19%
Journalism	5	1	0	20%
Japanese	13	3	0	23%
Medical Assisting	22	5	0	23%
Multimedia Studies	32	8	0	25%
Social Science	4	1	0	25%
Communications	22	6	0	27%

Discipline	Total # of Courses	# last updated before 2008	# In Progress	Percent Outdated
Environmental Land.	15	4	0	27%
Computer Science	10	3	1	30%
Music	45	14	3	31%
Engineering	12	4	1	33%
Drama	39	14	0	36%
Anthropology	10	4	0	40%
American Sign Language	5	2	0	40%
Chinese	5	2	0	40%
Fire Technology	5	2	0	40%
Early Childhood Education	31	13	0	42%
English	59	25	0	42%
Art	86	38	2	44%
Speech	9	4	1	44%
Geology	27	13	2	48%
Philosophy	4	2	3	50%
Biology	50	26	4	52%
Business Office Systems	24	13	0	54%
Computer Info. Systems	26	14	0	54%
Mathematics	35	21	5	60%
P.E. and Health	60	38	1	63%
Architecture	15	10	0	67%
Geography	9	6	0	67%
Physics	9	6	0	67%
Astronomy	4	3	2	75%
Machine & Metals Tech.	11	9	5	82%
Business	19	17	1	89%
Chemistry	12	11	12	92%
Administration of Justice	9	9	0	100%
Humanities	11	11	4	100%
Library	2	2	0	100%
Real Estate (ALL 2007)	10	10	0	100%

What we must get done this semester (Spring 2012) for college-wide/GE, degree/certificate SLOs:

- Complete all degree SLOs for the degrees that the department is keeping. **Degree SLOs must be submitted to the Curriculum Committee by the end of March 2012.**
- Some disciplines are deactivating degrees that very few students have earned over the last 5 years. If you have a degree you wish to deactivate, it requires filling out a form on the Curriculum Committee web page. Contact Chris Schultz, chair of the Curriculum Committee, if you need help.
- **Any degree that does not have SLOs and does not have a completed matrix will be deactivated by the Curriculum Committee the end of April 2012.** Deactivation will take effect fall semester 2012.
- **Complete the matrix for all degrees the department is keeping by the end of April 2012.** Again, the Curriculum Committee will deactivate any degree that does not have a completed matrix.
- Assess **one** of your degree/certificate SLOs using one or more of the college-wide,/GE, degree/certificate rubrics spring semester. Use of the rubrics will depend upon the schedule reported in the degree matrix.
- Use the tracking tool to report data from the rubrics. **Turn in the data to the Planning Research and Institutional Effectiveness office by mid June 2012.**
- Any questions about this process can be directed to the SLO facilitators, Yolanda Bellisimo and Anne Gearhart. We will help you complete any of the tasks listed above.

Rubrics & the Secret to Grading



Q: How will assessment results be used?

A: Course-level assessment results will be used by individual faculty members to improve student learning and create dialogue among faculty related to student learning. GE and Degree assessments that are entered into the Tracking tool will be aggregated together so that no single student, course or section will be named. The Assessment results will not be used for faculty evaluation.

(See Academic Senate MOU from 2005: <http://www.marin.edu/WORD-PPT/MOUonSLOs643.pdf>)

Q: SLOs are focusing only on what is happening in the classroom and not what happens before and after students come to class (e.g., poverty, having a prison record, divorce, etc.). In short, our SLOs do not allow for tracking and taking into account socioeconomic indicators if that is even possible.

A: This is correct. We are using the value-added concept by measuring early and late assessment—whether a student learns from the first day of the class to the last day of the class (only comparing their own progress, not against other students, or classes).

If we compare the results of a group of SLOs with another group of SLOs, it would both be a disaster and defeat the purpose of creating ongoing, collaborative dialogue for assessment for learning which is about student growth, feedback to students about their work, and helping students see and take control of their journey to success.

Faculty Handbook

<http://marin.edu/faculty/handbook>

Curriculum Committee Webpage

<http://www.marin.edu/curriculum/>

Student Learning Outcomes WIKI:

<http://com-academic-senate-slos.wikispaces.com/>

PRIE Institutional Planning Webpage:

<http://marin.edu/com/ODP/InstitutionalPlanningPage.htm>

(Scroll to the bottom of the page for links to many Institutional Research Reports)

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) for GE and Institutional Level

<http://marin.edu/com/ODP/SLOTrackingTool.htm> (Website, 7-18-2011) **(NEW!)**

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) for Student Services

<http://marin.edu/com/ODP/SSSLO.htm> (Website, 7-18-2011) **(New!)**

SLO Resources/Program Review Resources (New! updated 7-29-2011)

<http://marin.edu/com/ODP/sloprogramreviewresources.htm>

COM Faculty Governance Committee Members 2011 - 2012

as of March 2012

College Council (Three Senate Officers)

- Sara McKinnon
- Becky Brown
- Yolanda Bellisimo

Planning and Resource Allocation Committee (PRAC):

Sara McKinnon/Nanda Schorske— Co-Chairs

- Michele Martinisi
- Yolanda Bellisimo
- Norm Pacula
- Molly Johnson
- Kathleen Smyth
- Michael Dougan

EDUCATION PLANNING COMMITTEE (7)

- Peggy Dodge (Chair)
- Blaze Woodlief
- Sara McKinnon
- Chris West
- Jessica Park
- Joetta Scott

FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE (2)

- Erik Dunmire and Fernando Aguedelo-Silva

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (2)

Two faculty members sit on this committee

- Yolanda Bellisimo
- Anne Gearhart

INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE (5)

- Arthur Lutz
- Paul DaSilva
- Ron Krempetz
- Scott Serafin
- Brian Quinn

GOVERNANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE (2)

- Wendy Walsh and Victoria Coad

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE (7)

- Jeff Cady
- Frank Crosby
- Maula Allen
- Jeannie Langinger
- Kofi Opong Mensah
- Sara McKinnon
- John Erdman

SLO Facilitators:

- **Yolanda Bellisimo:** Arts and Humanities
- **Anne Gearhart:** CTE, Math and Sciences, PE and Allied Health
- **Becky Reetz:** Student Services

Program Review Facilitator:

- Sara McKinnon

Curriculum Committee

Chris Schultz, Chair:

Kristi Kuhn, Sara McKinnon, Becky Brown, A.Joe Ritchie, Caterina Labriola, Letta Hlavachek, Rinetta Early, Mary Pieper Warren, Rebecca Beal, Mia Chia, David King, Lisa Dagostino, Paul Cheney, John Jacob

Academic Standards:

- **Rinetta Early, Chair**
- Toni Yoshioka
- Laurie Ordin

Equivalency Committee

- Yolanda Bellisimo
- Meg Pasquel

SLOAC Committee

Yolanda Bellisimo, Chair

Anne Gearhart, Fernando Agudelo-Silva, Trina Miller, Robert Ovetz, Jessica Park, Beth Patel, Cara Statucki, Blaze Woodlief, John Erdman, Steve Newton

Distance Education Committee

Alisa Klinger, Chair

Maula Allen, Sandy Boyd, Carl Cox, Ingrid Kelly, Ira Lansing, Sara Lefkowitz, John Marmysz, Kathleen Smyth, Brian Wilson

General Education Committee

Sara McKinnon, Chair

A.Joe Ritchie, Chris Schultz, Susan Rahman, Karen Robinson, Meg Pasquel, Kathleen Smyth, Yolanda Bellisimo

2011-2012 Academic Senate

Officers:

- Sara McKinnon President
- Michael Dougan Vice President
- Becky Brown Secretary
- Yolanda Bellisimo Treasurer

Additional Full Time Members:

- Bonnie Borenstein
- Rinetta Early
- Hank Fearnley
- Arthur Lutz
- Dikran Martin
- John Sutherland
- Blaze Woodlief

Part-Time Credit

- Paul Cheney
- Mia Chia
- Vacant

Part Time Noncredit

- Rebecca Beal

<http://marin.edu/senate/>