



Committee for Assessing Student Learning (CASL) - Minutes

Meeting Held Friday, January 12, 2024, from 12:30 – 2pm – via Webex

- Approved 1-25-24 -

Team Members:

Present:

Brenda Brown, Dana Cogswell, Timothy Deines, Melinda Hernandez, Karen Hicks, Heidi Jordan, Mark Kelland, Zack Macomber, Rafeeq McGiveron, Rob McLoone, Jesse Mills, Homa Ghaussi Mujtaba, Tracy Nothnagel, Chuck Page, Danielle Savory, and Kara Wiedman.

Absent:

Amanda Estacio

Guest:

Cheryl Garayta

Action Items:

- Mark may meet with Dr. Dan and get some clarity on the “Beyond a Book” program and if it can be included in the cocurricular programs for this semester.
 - He will report back findings to CASL
- Karen to invite ODI representatives to our next CASL meeting.

Approval of 01/12/24 Agenda

- Call for approval of agenda.
- Hearing no objections, the agenda stands approved with no changes.

Approval of 12/01/23 Minutes

- Call for correction/approval of minutes.
- Hearing no objections, the minutes stand approved with no changes.
- Please note there was an update given by Rob later in the meeting and found in the minutes below.

Cocurricular work continued from 12/01/23

Reminder: By end of this semester, we need assessment data from cocurricular programs for the HLC assurance argument. This needs to be done intentionally and with a sense of urgency.

- Karen shared her copy of the [Cocurricular data collection plan Spr24](#), which is found in the CASL SharePoint site.
 - She discussed the existing cocurricular programs being assessed and the new ones that need on boarding.
- Mark would like to see “Beyond the Book” added to this list.
 - Rob updated the minutes from last meeting in regards to the “Beyond the Book” information.
 - Since the last meeting the Center for Engaged Inclusion (CEI) has decided to take on most of the work of running the program themselves.

- There is a new Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Dale Dan, that oversees the CEI (CEI Director is Amber Denney) and the program is currently paused while Dr. Dan can review and make decisions on its direction
 - Mark will see if he can meet with Dr. Dan to get some clarity on the matter and will report back his findings to CASL.
 - Karen noted that is a larger task than he might think.
 - Gathering the data from all participants in a meaningful way is worthwhile but very labor intensive requiring a lot of pre-organization.
 - Karen suggested, if Mark is looking for an institutional cocurricular program to use the Cardio Program as an example for HLC Assurance Report.
 - There is both past and current data there
 - Heidi noted that she had a discussion with Lisa Nienkark and there is some concern that “Beyond the Book” might not be a cocurricular option
 - Will need some more investigation before adding it to the cocurricular list
- Some concern that HLC may request a focus group for the cocurricular program assessment.
 - They have done this for other colleges
 - LCC is in good shape because we have focused assessment on student learning
 - Participation is not student learning and cannot be used towards assessment but on HLC site visits they often find colleges think it is. LCC will not be one of those.
 - LCC is weak in this area in that we don’t have a lot of data already collected here
 - However, our gen ed and individual course assessment is in good shape
- [Cocurricular Assessment Handbook](#), located on CASL SharePoint and on the [CASL Website/Cocurricular Tab](#)
 - Discussion about needing to update and make this a document that cocurricular folks can see themselves in and have details about their current assessment techniques added.
 - Sticking point is a D2L gradebook, cocurricular does not use.
 - Will also need to work with faculty about labeling assessments and determining what should/can be assessed
 - Karen mentioned this is often part of her first discussions with a program
 - Challenge when talking to cocurricular programs to align their goals with LCC’s Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs).
 - Determined this can be part of our onboarding process with new cocurricular programs.
 - Request they contribute information for the guide
- Rob wondered if it might be helpful to bring up ELOs during Strategic Planning.
 - Strategic planning includes both business and educational goals of the institution
 - President and Provost involvement
 - ELOs could be mentioned but are primarily focused on the education side
 - Primarily Provost involvement
- Review: ELO’s establishment at LCC.
 - Academic Senate voted on them just over 10 years ago, a year before the last HLC Site Visit
 - They were based off information from the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AACU)
 - CASL has periodically reviewed them
 - They are not set in stone and are open to being changed per faculty input

- Question: Is DEI cocurricular?
 - Some programs within ODI such as LUCERO or MAP are part of DEI and included.
 - Generally DEI is associated with achievement of a credential or completion so it gets tricky to determine

Next Steps

- Karen is meeting with ODI group on January 23rd. During that meeting she will invite them to our January 26th CASL meeting.
 - Intent will be to introduce them to the group and the assessment viewpoint
 - Will also discuss getting their input for the handbook and underscore the timing urgency to get that information incorporated
 - This will include representatives from Men About Progress (MAP), ACCESS, and LUCERO.
- Then we can reach out to the Athletics program to come to the February 9th meeting.

Website Committee updates – standing item

No updates at this time, group is meeting next week.

AI and Assessment – standing item

- Mel has been researching the subject for her classes of cognition and writing.
 - At first she was thinking AI was only a way to cut corners and even cheat but now running into the notion of “deeper learning”
 - It is not in opposition to writing but actually could be at the root of writing as it relates to cognition
 - It might be a positive tool, she is continuing to investigate it
- Goes back to need for ways to assess critical thinking.
- Will keep this as a standing item to keep the idea of creating a systemic way to connect assessment to the AI conversations on campus.
- Kara wanted folks to know that as you come across assessment tools you like to use, please submit them to eLearning so they can look at possibilities of integrating them into D2L.
 - This was in response to Rob’s input of using Google Docs with tracking changes to see the history of a paper, including if items were just copied and pasted into a document without further revisions
 - D2L can be made better but needs faculty input into what they want to see and time to review items to see if they will work with existing structures set up in D2L

Future Agenda Items

None presented.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:31PM with no objections

- Next Meeting Friday, January 26, from 12:30pm to 2:00pm, via Webex.

Respectfully submitted by Terri Christian

LCC provides equal opportunity for all persons and prohibits discriminatory practices based on race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, creed, ancestry, height, weight, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, familial status, marital status, military status, veteran's status, or other status as protected by law, or genetic information that is unrelated to the person's ability to perform the duties of a

particular job or position or participate in educational programs, courses, services or activities offered by the College.