

MINUTES

Learning Outcomes Assessment Advisory Board
October 12, 2007

Members Present: Cynthia Roberts, Rose Mince, Natasha Miller, Karen Renaud, Paulette Comet, Dennis Seymour, Bob Miller, Jane Mattes, Kathleen d'Ambrisi, Bob Baer, Joy Jones, Lillian Archer

Guests: Yvette Myrick, Paige Rodgers, Natalie Kimbrough

Review of Minutes: The group reviewed the minutes from the September 14, 2007 meeting and a some additions and corrections were made.

WID/AC presentation: Our guests, Yvette, Paige and Natalie discussed the Writing in the Disciplines and Across the Curriculum. On January 22 the Annual Writing Exchange Conference will take place. The proposal announcement will be out soon for this conference. The goals for the WID/AC initiative are that it is a grass roots effort to get faculty involved and generate discussion about writing in their disciplines. They hope to bring in faculty from surrounding community colleges and develop a workshop series that will focus on more specialized topics within this issue. Paige shared with the group the Loyola college WID book, Basic Elements for Teaching and Writing that Loyola published. In this book each department shares their writing assignments in about 3-5 pages. The WID/AC group is also conducting Brown Bag lunches as a forum for informal sharing of ideas among faculty. They are looking at identifying writing intensive courses. The WID/AC is linked through the Teaching Learning Roundtable and working with ESOL, Honors, LOAAB, NFLC and looking to work with the Connections group (Karen Olsen and Michelle Jones). They are also trying to make sure faculty understand what the Writing Center offers—not simply proofreading and correcting papers.

Overview of GREATs Projects: Paulette presented a review of the GREATs projects. This Fall semester the Social and Behavioral Sciences are doing GREATs. There will be a scoring day in January. There was some discussion about how the results of the GREATs are shared with faculty and it was pointed out that the discipline team leader needs to share the results with all the faculty in the discipline.

Overview of LOA Projects: Rose discussed the LOA projects and their status.

Update on LOA Booklet: Paulette reported that the newest draft of the booklet looked very good—A new table of contents needs to be created and it should be printed soon.

LOAAB Subcommittee Reports:

Communication (Paulette, Cynthia, Bob Miller, Bob Baer) – this subcommittee discussed revising the webpage, making a presentation at the TLR Fair and submitting an article to the student newspapers to publicize the purpose and value of the GREATs.

Professional Development (Dennis, Kathleen, Karen, Natasha, Lillian) This group will be making a presentation about rubrics at the adjunct faculty meeting. Some discussion of creating an award to present to faculty who have participated in the LOAs or GREATs. Something they could wear on their regalia at graduation, such as a sash, a cord or a medal.

Year of Communication : Writing (Jane , Lynne and Rose) – this subcommittee will be connecting with the WID/AC group. Discussion about how to measure the impact of writing assignments and see the progress in writing skills that a student makes. Suggestion of using an e-portfolio to collect the writing assignments. For students seeking an AA in Humanities and Social Sciences institute a 2-semester sequence. First , have an assignment in their first course and then do a culminating assignment and look at the progress. For the GREATs projects examine the weak writing areas. Funding for projects emphasizing writing could be sought through the TLR Grants.

Submitted by: Cynthia Roberts
December 7, 2007