



ACADEMIC SENATE

**Academic SLO Meeting
Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008
3:00pm-4:00pm, Room 104**

Minutes

Attendees: Veronica Burton, Joel Levine, Viara Giraffe, Patti Flores-Charter (who else was at our meeting, my memory is failing me?)

- I. Website: Tabled
- II. SLOs on Course Syllabi: This topic was brought up. Reference was made to the AFT letter to WASC regarding two different areas of objection:
 - 1) the WASC mandate directing faculty to put SLOs on their course syllabi. This over steps the power of WASC and undermines academic freedom. Local union contracts super cede this.
 - 2) the recommended use of SLOs in faculty evaluation. Local union contracts super cede this.

In the last year our committee has discussed SLOs and the emerging work load and union issue. Content required on course syllabi have been negotiated by SCEA. Thus the SLO committee has recommended that our union work with the college on both these issues. Our committee and the Academic Senate have recommended placement of SLOs on course syllabi because it just makes sense. At the same time we recognize the academic freedom of the faculty to determine what non-contract related information is on their syllabi.

The Syllabus conveys to the student what will be taught, etc. The concern with requiring SLOs on syllabi at this point is that it will

reflect an expectation of outcomes that may or not occur during this developmental period.

In order to implement SLOs in a meaningful way, faculty must find time to discuss SLOs, identify how to assess SLOs in a qualitative and quantitative manner, and meet to evaluate both the outcome, the SLO itself, and the assessment tool. This means that the implementation SLOs over time will result many hours of faculty meetings and significant on-going adjustments to this process.

eLumen will give us a system for reporting and managing assessment results; however, approval of purchase just occurred at the Nov. GB meeting.

- III. Program SLOs: Discussion occurred about the efficacy of written definitions to clarify for faculty each program area. Many instructional faculty are not aware of the broad requirements to obtain an Associate Degree or to transfer to a baccalaureate four-year institution. Definitions followed by the counseling forms will quickly convey this information to our faculty.
- IV. Philosophy: Tabled
- V. eLumen: Veronica is told that purchase was approved by GB. Next the faculty and college will need to develop in-service training in the use of eLumen to document assessment results. This means that faculty are implementing SLOs this semester without clear direction on this tool to store assessment results in a rubric based manner.

Next Meeting: Dec. 2, 3:00pm-4:00pm in room 104.