

Academic Assessment Committee
January 10, 2012, 3:00pm
Provost's Conference Room, 239 Tigert Hall

Present: Timothy Brophy, Joanne Foss, Anne Kendall Casella, Margaret Fields, Mark Law, Bernard Mair, Barbara Pace, Theresa Vernetson, Michael Weigold, Marie Zeglen

Guest: Ricky Telg

Dr. Brophy welcomed the committee and introduced Dr. Ricky Telg from Agricultural Education and Communication.

December 13, 2011 meeting minutes approval

Anne moved to accept, and Margaret seconded. All were in favor of approval. The motion passed.

Florida BOG Notice of Proposed Regulation Amendment

Dr. Brophy started the meeting with the Florida BOG Notice of Proposed Regulation Amendment. The amendment will be voted on by the end of January with one possible removal of the wording in item 1.b.1.b. about graduates potential earnings and job placement rates. The amendment also uses the terminology "Student Learning Outcomes Assessment" for "Academic Learning Compacts." However, the latter phrase is still used in the regulation, so the committee will continue to refer to them as Academic Learning Compacts. It was also mentioned that reports will be periodic rather than annual of ALCs.

Theresa raised a concern about 2.a regarding the "continuous improvement expectations." It was clarified that if you already have a process in place, then you do not have to create a new one.

Common Elements of ALCs

It is no longer necessary to use the phrase "must complete before graduating" in ALCs. This statement will be replaced with "You may encounter..." which comes directly from the regulations discussed earlier in the meeting. The wording distressed some members of the committee because items that are required for graduation may not seem as though they are with this new wording. However, it was decided that the wording is flexible and could read "You will encounter..." Theresa voiced a concern that we should consider the principle behind the catalog ALCs. Will this wording change what we are trying to communicate to the public?

Also, Dr. Brophy pointed out that the list of assessments on the Common Elements of ALCs document is not conclusive. He also asked the committee if they recalled whether they had decided that assessments of SLOs are measured by *groups* of faculty such as faculty-developed rubrics. The group agreed that that was the consensus.

Several members of the committee raised issue with the fact that the ALC for the catalog may seem disconnected from the Academic Assessment Plan and may seem like extra work to faculty and staff. To reduce workload and ensure consistency, it was proposed that Academic Assessment Plans will be turned in, and the SLOs will be extracted to be put in the catalog ALC. These will then be sent back to the colleges to verify. Dr. Brophy asked the committee to brainstorm ideas on how to roll this plan out.

Review Criteria subcommittee

A subcommittee of Mark, David, and Anne was created to develop a set of criteria that the committee can apply to ALC reviews. Ashley is putting together an audit of past meetings and decisions so they can develop principles and a set of criteria.

Business ALCs

In light of the changes in wording of the ALCs, Dr. Brophy will discuss the ALCs with Brian Ray. Two suggestions were offered by the committee – (1) attract more attention to the 8th SLO, which is the distinct SLO for each major, by moving it up in the list or highlighting it, and (2) Highlight the major in the second paragraph. This will help differentiate between the similarly worded Business ALCs. Mark made a motion to approve the Business ALCs on these conditions, Margaret seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Theresa raised a concern that if these ALCs are put online, then they will look different from the other majors' ALCs. Brian Ray will be asked if it must be changed online now for accrediting reasons or if it can wait until the other ALCs will be updated.

Communication and Leadership ALC

Communication and Ag Education came together into the same degree in the 90's. Even though these specializations fall under the same degree, they do not share common courses and act as majors. Dr. Brophy suggests that Dr. Mair and Ricky discuss the major/specialization issue. These specializations may need to become majors.

The revised ALC in question only included a change in the course required for graduation. The committee also noted that the ALC says, "a grade of C or higher." The committee asked for Ricky to provide a syllabus so they can determine how and which SLOs are assessed to determine this grade. Dr. Brophy suggested tabling the request due to the major/specialization issue and changes in wording and denying the request in the approvals system for now.

Athletic Training

Update – The course is still pending UCC approval. Dr. Brophy will approve the ALC after the course has been approved.

PHHP

This ALC was pending approval because not all students had to take the exam. Sampling frame for assessment did not include all students.

Food Science

The issue in question was the evaluation of the capstone course. The ALC needs to be changed to state that a faculty-created rubric is the form of evaluation. Mark motioned that the committee conditionally approves the ALC, Michael seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.