

SLO News

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We're on the Web!

www.deanza.edu/ slo/

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Applause Please Please send your SLO success stories to PapeMary@DeAnza.edu

Gough + Accounting

= SLO Success Story

As the SLO process continues to develop at De Anza, faculty members are beginning to notice its benefits. A notable success story can be found in the Accounting department, as explained by veteran instructor Michael Gough. An member of the Accounting, Real Estate and Business departments and a strong advocate for SLO work, Gough is committed to excellence in teaching and learning, noting that "there's always room for improvement when it comes to these things". Accounting has recently begun including outcome statements on all course syllabi. This is an excellent practice that, as Gough explains, makes the aims of a given course completely transparent to its students. Some sections in his department have gone so far as to post outcome statements inside the classrooms themselves, to serve as reminders of the overarching goals that

that shape course activities.

The benefits of SLO work are not limited to an increased student awareness of course aims. According to Gough, part-time instructors have reported that clear SLO statements make it much easier to develop their own syllabi, as the content of the courses is naturally informed by the outcomes upon which the faculty has collectively agreed.

Gough and the colleagues in his department have designed uniform assessment methods for all instructors to use in introductory accounting courses. Using a common assessment method, he says, provides a "relatively painless" way to garner valuable insights into his department's strengths while identifying features of courses that can be improved.

Unequivocally the accounting department's work provides an excellent example of the cooperative improvements to teaching practices that can result from the SLO process.

FOCUS FOR SPRING QUARTER

Flex Day: A dedicated day with the time and space to enjoy working with your peers: complete entire SLOs for 100% of courses, document SLOACs, map and create timeline for PLOACs and give input to Annual Program Review Update

April 15.

Closing the Loop Workshop for Liaisons and Department Chairs

Mar II or Mar I6

Annual Program Review Update and the SLO Process -> Closing the Loop

The SLO Team is working with the SSPBT and IPBT committees to organize similar approaches to the Annual Program Review Update relative to content and process. The emphasis of adding a Program level assessment planning calendar that targets completion of all PLO assessments by 2013-14 (the year of the next comprehensive program review) is a major task that needs to be recorded for the accreditation team by April 15. Program assessment will benefit your program in at least two significant ways.

First, discussions about assessment results will foster collegiality along with program improvement.

Secondly, assessment results will serve as evidence of your program's needs for faculty, staff, materials, building refurbishment and more. This year, we have fulfilled the ACCJC's expectation that we will link a program's resource allocation request to assessment results and planning.

We now have a process.

The only task left is for all constituents to participate!

Program Learning
Outcomes will be
mapped to the
Institutional Core
Competencies

SSLO and AUO - a Quick Update

Student Services Learning Outcomes Assessment Cycles (SSLOACs) are well underway. Close to 100% of programs in Student Services and Academic Services have written SSLO statements and most assessment cycles scheduled for 2010 – 11 are finished or in progress. In addition, these Student Services and Academic Services program areas are working on their Program Level Outcome statements, linking them to the Mission, Institutional Core Competencies, and Strategic Initiatives, and preparing

the data for the 2010-11 Program Reviews Updates to be submitted in early spring.

Administrative Unit Outcomes Assessment Cycles (AUOACs) are getting underway. Nearly every program in the Finance and Education Resources division has written AUO statements, assessment cycles are beginning for many of these AUOs, and programs within the division are writing Program Level Outcome statements and linking them to the Mission, Institutional Core Competencies, and Strategic Initiatives. The Finance

and Education Resources areas will be submitting their 2010-11 Program Reviews Updates in early spring as well.

The SLO Convocation Day on April 15 will afford the faulty the opportunity to focus on outcomes and program review. It is perceived that a minimum number of students will be on campus that day since faculty may opt to cancel classes to participate. Hence, programs and divisions in Student Services, Academic Services, and Finance and Educational Resource are encouraged to also meet that day to continue their outcomes pro-



