

Outcomes Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 20, 2009
4:00p.m. CE 207

Presiding: Kathy Thatcher, Director of Assessment

Present: Megan Graham, Ebba Stedillie, Chad Hanson, Fred Kuck, Brook Russell, Jared Bowden

I. Call to order

II. Approval of February Minutes

K. Thatcher asked if there were revisions or corrections to the February 2009 Outcomes Committee minutes. Motion to approve minutes, Ebba Stedillie moved to approve minutes, Chad Hanson seconded. All in favor. With no corrections or revisions, the minutes were approved as written.

III. Announcements

a. WyDEC: May 18-20, 2009

K. Thatcher passed around the conference agenda. She will be doing several presentations on assessment. She encouraged everyone to register for the conference, noting it is free to CC employees.

b. Ideas: Center for Excellence

K. Thatcher will be working closely with the Center for Excellence as an outlet to provide assessment resources to faculty, administrators, and staff. She asked the committee for input about information and resources they'd like to see available to them. Please send her an email as you come up with ideas.

K. Thatcher agreed that it would be helpful to faculty to be able to see what their colleagues are doing in WEAVE and share what they are doing. She will explore the possibility of allowing expanded access to faculty.

M. Graham suggested a WEAVE best practices seminar to be held in the Center for Excellence.

IV. Old Business

a. Online course evaluations for DE courses

Of the 437 students asked to take the survey, 119 responded. That is a response rate of about 27%. K. Thatcher said that number is a little low, but she will be thinking of ways to encourage higher participation.

K. Thatcher said that since she is new, she would like to know any requests, comments, concerns or suggestions the committee may have before proceeding to new business.

V. New Business

a. Graduation survey

K. Thatcher said she was concerned that there was no program level information in the survey. She said she is unsure how the survey results are being used, but thinks program level data would be beneficial. She spoke with Lois Davis and Dr. Carmen Simone about it, and they agreed that program level questioning would be okay as long as students remained confidential. K. Thatcher said the results would certainly be confidential. Individual responses would not be used for reporting purposes, and would be evaluated in aggregate.

The revised graduate survey will ask students which degree program they graduated in or took most of their coursework in, and the rated questions will be more concrete and specific. A question has been added to the end of the survey asking for contact information, specifically the students' email addresses, because CC does not have a very complete alumni database. Reliable contact information also would make post-graduations surveys possible.

The committee asked what the data were being used for and if or how demographic differences, such as student age, were used. K. Thatcher said the survey data will be compared to CCSSE data for consistencies or inconsistencies, etc.

K. Thatcher brought up the fact that currently only students participating in the graduation ceremony (about 50% of total graduates) complete the survey. Discussion ensued about how to reach more graduates. Suggestions included sending them out by email, including them in certain classes, and appending them to the application for graduation.

b. Assessment inventory survey

K. Thatcher tabled discussion on this topic until she has a chance to look at the FSSE results and determine if data would be duplicated with this survey.

c. Ideas for program reports and review process

K. Thatcher suggested assessment program reviews as a way for programs to share with one another what they are doing. Assessment program reviews would be peer reviewed by subcommittees of the Outcomes Committee, whose feedback would go back to the programs. The process would close the assessment loop by allowing the information gathered to be used in curriculum decision making as appropriate. The process would require more consistent meeting attendance by members of the Outcomes Committee.

d. Ideas for transitioning course evaluations

VI. Other

K. Thatcher will email the committee about the next meeting time.

V. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.