

Natural Science SLO Committee Minutes 9/15/09

Meeting was held on September 15 at 1:00pm in room LS101

Attendees: Jean Shankweiler, Amy Grant, S. Vincent Lloyd, Nancy Freeman, Jim Noyes, Margaret Steinberg, Susana Prieto

ALC Report

J. Shankweiler and J. Noyes attended the campus-wide Assessment of Learning Committee meeting on Monday, September 14. The agenda from the meeting included a list of items for SLO committees to work on over the semester. The action items include: (1) plan a sharing/Q&A session for the Assessment of Student Learning week in November (Nov. 2-6), (2) make sure all courses have SLO statements by Dec 2009, (3) make sure timelines are being followed, (4) write an end-of-semester report and (5) start planning for division participation in core competency assessment for Fall 2010.

Division Summary/Timeline

The committee reviewed the timeline provided by Jenny Simon for the college activities for the Fall 2009 semester. These activities include one course-level slo plan for every course, a complete set of program-level slo plans, and an integrated 6-year model of a timeline. The committee discussed what this 6-year timeline would require. J. Noyes asked if this means we need to revise the timelines previously established. The consensus was that this may need to happen in order to meet a 6-year cycle for all courses.

Program Level SLOs

Each department in the NS division now has a program level Slo plan submitted. The committee members will work on the plan for getting these assessed by the June 2010 deadline. There was some discussion about how to accomplish this; do all sections need to participate, must part-time faculty participate, what is the best way to encourage participation, how have other departments handled this, etc.

Course Level SLO's

List of courses still needing SLO statements was distributed at flex day and had 22 courses listed. Since flex day in August, 15 SLO plans for courses have been submitted and only 7 courses still need an slo statement before December 2009 (APhy 34A, Aphy 34B, Astr 12, Astr 13abcd, Biol 103, Hort 42, and Hort 46).

Other Issues

J. Shankweiler asked if people found the SLO form cumbersome to complete, since this was brought up at the ALC meeting on Monday. Most faculty agreed it is cumbersome, especially in the rubric area. Much of the frustration is in formatting issues when trying to cut and paste from a word document.

Adjourned at 1:45pm

Submitted: jms 9/16/09

