

Campus Wide Assessment Meeting
February 24, 2005

A Campus wide Assessment meeting was held at 2:30 pm on Thursday, February 24, 2005, in the Foundation. Dr. John Quinley was the facilitator for this meeting. This meeting is another avenue to keep the entire campus informed and involved in the QEP process.

The SACS Update was presented by Dr. John Quinley.

A. Copies of the second issue of “SACS Update” a campus newsletter that is published quarterly by the Public Information Office were available. Dr. Quinley mentioned that the first and second editions of the newsletter are available on ICC website. Dr. Quinley highlighted Dr. Myra Johnson’s article encouraging all faculty and staff to be knowledgeable of the QEP and how it relates to the mission of Isothermal Community College. He briefly highlighted the work of the subcommittees, the liaisons, and the literature review drafted by Dr. Kathy Ackerman. This draft is available for previewing in the library. Dr. Quinley reviewed the QEP development calendar.

B. Dr. Quinley reported that the Compliance Report will soon be completed. This report has involved many hours of work by the Office of Assessment, Planning and Research, by the SACS Leadership team, by the IE taskforce, and by Administration

C. Dr. Quinley reminded everyone that the information gathered from the surveys, information gained from the literature review and best practices found at other colleges will be used to form the QEP plan.

D. Dr. Quinley provided a report of the findings of the Levels survey. Most of the campus felt they were at level 2 heading toward a level 3. Dr. Quinley compiled a list of needs common to most divisions: This information will be used to develop the QEP.

1. Share their missions with students and adjuncts
2. Make current assessment efforts widely known.
3. Make the steps of assessment systematic, meaningful and manageable.
4. Utilize assessment findings for improvements.

D. Dr. Quinley provided a report of the findings of the three larger surveys on Program Assessment, Student Portfolios, and Learning Strategies. This information will be used to develop the QEP. The most commonly used assessment practices were:

1. Written exams 1st
2. Written Assignments 2nd
3. Group Assignments 3rd
4. Informative assignments 4th
5. Performance assessments 5th.

Common student portfolio needs were to:

1. Reach a consensus on the purpose of and the process for student portfolios.
2. Inform and include students in all aspects of assessment.
3. Guide students to use assessment to improve their own learning.
4. Be realistic about needed resources, or considering faculty release time.

E. Lynn Rowland and Kelly Jones Instructors in the ADN program for the Foothills Consortium Nursing Program gave a very informative explanation of how they incorporated general education competencies into NUR 233 Leadership in Nursing course. They explained the process of developing the purpose, methodology, outcomes, as well as the use of the speaking, writing, listening and interpersonal skills rubrics. They discussed the orientation required for the students prior to this project and the behind the scenes decision making of the instructors. Handouts were given and questions answered.

F. Dr. Barbara Peterson reminded all that the main purpose of the student portfolios is to improve student learning. There are many questions left unanswered. What is it? What are the benefits? How will it be implemented? What is an effective portfolio assignment? She reviewed the findings of the survey about portfolios. She stated that most classes have a portfolio assignment on the syllabus with specific guidelines. Most have a reflective component and many use the rubrics to evaluate the assignment. She also said that over 50% of the faculty teaches a course that would lend to the submission of a portfolio. The portfolio subcommittee will use this information in developing the QEP. Dr. Peterson reviewed the revised Community of Learners pamphlet which included Isothermal's mission, vision and values. She discussed John Zubizarreta's definition of portfolio.

G. Cathy Alexander presented Vicki Searcy and Katherine Moody from the Graphic Design Program to discuss their portfolios. They discussed each section and how it benefited them as a student.

H. Student Portfolios workshops will be presented by Dr. Barbara Peterson, Dr. John Quinley and students Katherine Moody and Vickie Searcy in the Student Center Testing Room on Tuesday March 8 and 9th. Posters will be distributed campus wide.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm. The next Campus-wide meeting will be April 7, 2005 at 2:30pm in the Foundation

Minutes prepared by Carol Richardson, Assessment Taskforce Vice Chair