

St. Petersburg College

Outcomes Assessment Review Report

Report Completion Date: January 8, 2007

Introduction

While the institutional effectiveness and planning process is a continuous endeavor, operationally the process begins with a series of meetings by four oversight groups (Educational, Educational Support Services, and Student Services and Administrative Oversight Groups) at the beginning of the calendar year.

The four oversight groups are charged with the following key tasks: (i) evaluate whether the institution successfully achieved its desired outcomes from the previous institutional effectiveness and planning cycle, (ii) identify key areas requiring improvement that were identified in the assessment analysis, and (iii) develop strategies and recommendations to formulate quality improvement initiatives for the next institutional effectiveness and planning cycle.

Check the Appropriate Oversight Group:

| | |
|----------|---|
| | Student Services Oversight Group |
| | Educational Support Services Oversight Group |
| | Administrative Services Oversight Group |
| x | Educational Oversight Group |

Educational Oversight Group

The Education Oversight Group members are appointed by the President. Their focus area is to review key educational outcomes information including but not limited to “Educational Outcome Assessment Reports”, “State Accountability Measures Reports” and Student Survey Reports. The group leader/chairperson is appointed by the President.

Status of each item identified in this report last year:

There were five action plan items that were recommended as a result of last year’s review of academic assessments by the Educational Oversight Group. Of the five recommended action items, four were completed during the calendar year. Table 1 contains a description of each of the five action items along with their current completion status and relevant details.

The remaining action item ‘Utilize advisory committee input as part of Program Review’ is currently being implemented. Due to the change from the five year to three year cycles for program reviews, the implementation is continuing. This item will be moved forward into areas needing improvement in the current year.

Table 1 – 2005-2006 Action Plan Item Status

| Objective | Status | Comments |
|---|------------|--|
| For each general education outcome, at least one online course will be included. | Completed | Online courses were included in all general education assessments during 2005-06. |
| Provide faculty training in development of assessment tools. | Completed | There were several presentations at fall faculty professional development day in October 2006: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Infusing Teamwork into the Classroom ❖ Evaluating the Effective Domain in Health Programs ❖ Enhancing collaborative learning with online tools ❖ Constructing and using rubrics in evaluating student work ❖ The craft of writing |
| Utilize advisory committee input as part of Program Review. | In Process | Due to the change from the five year to three year cycles for program reviews, the implementation is continuing. It will be moved forward into areas needing improvement in the current year. |
| Incorporate general education assessments that measure learning ‘across the curriculum’ | Completed | This objective has been implemented with general education goals included in curriculum maps for program assessments for AS, AAS and bachelor level programs. |
| Hire full-time administrative staff person to oversee all college-wide assessments, including General Education, Program Assessment and Program Review. | Completed | This objective was accomplished with the hiring of Jesse Coraggio and Maggie Tymms. |

Areas that need improvement:

In order to identify the areas needing improvement, the 2005-2006 General Education Assessment Reports were reviewed. Each of the twelve general education areas included action items intended to facilitate the improvement of these academic areas. To provide a College-level overview of the areas requiring the greatest need,

an action item coverage analysis was conducted. The analysis consisted of four steps as follows:

1. Listed all action items from either completed 2005-2006 Assessment Reports or those in advanced stage of completion (12 Gen Ed Goal Areas).
2. Duplicated items that were initially listed in multiple categories (four items).
3. Conducted analysis for individual action items (62) and by Gen Ed Goal Area (12).
4. Analyzed coverage by overall area and by sub-area

Four areas were identified as a result of the analysis. These four areas are:

- Provide professional development: both within the discipline and across disciplines
- Improve communication/dissemination of materials and assessments
- Improve quality of assessment instruments and analysis
- Align general education objectives with curriculum and/or accreditation/national standards of the discipline

For each area that needs improvement, identify objectives and action steps that will lead to improvement (these should be included in individual Unit Plans in the upcoming year)

It should be noted that assessments discovered minor areas for improvements that will be acted upon by individual departments. However, aside from the objectives listed below, there were no systemic issues that require institutional direction.

I. Areas Needing Improvement: *Provide professional development: both within the discipline and across disciplines*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Provide faculty training in development of assessment tools

Action Steps:

- Identify in-house experts to provide training to faculty
- Incorporate training as part of fall professional development day or other SPD training opportunity

II. Areas Needing Improvement: *Improve communication/dissemination of materials and assessments*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Research an Intranet solution to provide college-wide access assessments and materials

Action Steps:

- Research and identify potential cost-justifiable solutions
- Present potential solutions to Educational Oversight Committee for selection

- Create work plan to implement selected solution

III. Areas Needing Improvement: *Improve quality of assessment instruments and analysis*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Improve the validity and reliability of the assessments used in to assess general education.

Action Steps:

- Re-evaluate the current assessment instruments that are being used in terms of their quality and validity
- Provide reliability indices with all assessment analysis
- When appropriate conduct an in-depth item analysis

IV. Area Needing Improvement: *Align general education objectives with curriculum and/or accreditation/national standards of the discipline*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Suggest revisions to the current general education objectives to cabinet.

Action Steps:

- Create draft general education objectives
- Work with programs to create program-specific operational definitions of general education objectives
- Have the Educational Oversight Committee serve as a resource during the transition

V. Area Needing Improvement: *Use of advisory committee feedback in program assessment and program review*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Utilize advisory committee input as part of the Program Review process

Action Steps:

- Program Directors will forward advisory committee minutes to Program Review office
- Summary of advisory committee minutes will be incorporated into Program Review reports

Completion and Review Process Information

This Outcomes Assessment Review report was prepared by:

Dr. Carol Weideman
Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Date

This Outcomes Assessment Review report was presented to the President's Cabinet on the following date.

Dr. Carl M. Kuttler, Jr.
President

Date