

St. Petersburg College

Outcomes Assessment Review Report

Report Completion Date: December, 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
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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 item objectives 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, two 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 items objectives ‘Provide faculty training in development of assessment tools’, ‘Research an Intranet solution to provide college-wide access to assessments and materials,’ and ‘Suggest revisions to the current general education objectives to Cabinet’ are currently being implemented. These objectives will be moved forward into areas needing improvement in the current year.

Table 1 – 2006-2007 Action Plan Item Status

Objective	Status	Comments
Provide faculty training in development of assessment tools	In Process	<p>Currently conducting cross-departmental assessment meetings every month.</p> <p>This year’s fall professional development day was assigned to “SACS certified” training. Assessment coordinators have provided some one-on-one training to PDs during the course of the assessment process.</p>
Research an Intranet solution to provide college-wide access to assessments and materials	In Process	<p>Current in-house solutions include ANGEL (e.g., scientific method, teamwork), Ed Outcomes website, new critical thinking gateway website, and IR/IE college web pages.</p>
Improve the validity and reliability of the assessment tools used to assess general education	Completed	<p>Gen Ed assessments are being reviewed and monitored according to the assessment schedule.</p> <p>Changes were made to the Ethics assessment (added control items) and draft items are being reviewed and pilot tested for the MathProbSolv assessment.</p> <p>Ethics assessment now analyzed using pre-post test methodology with matched statistical significance testing.</p> <p>The Likert scale for the Gen Ed items on the Graduating Student Survey was changed from 7 to 5 to conform to industry standards.</p> <p>When possible, reliability indices are calculated for all Gen Ed Assessments.</p>
Suggest revisions to the current general education objectives to Cabinet	In Process	<p>This objective was delayed due to a decision to wait for any review or changes until after the SACS process.</p>
Utilize advisory committee input as part of the Program Review Process	Completed	<p>The process is in place. PDs are sending minutes either directly or indirectly to assessment coordinators.</p> <p>The new CAPR format includes recent meeting minute’s summary as well as three years of minutes in appendix of the document. Advisory Committees are encouraged to provide feedback as part of the CAPR review process.</p>

Areas that need improvement:

In order to identify the areas needing improvement, the 2006-07 General Education and Program Assessment reports were reviewed. Each of the 2006-07 General Education and Program Assessments 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. It should be noted that the General Education Outcomes Assessment has one to two Gen Ed outcomes per assessment and often multiple action items per Gen Ed Outcome as opposed to the Program Assessment which has two to thirteen major learning outcomes per Assessment: with generally one item per MLO.

The analysis consisted of the steps as follows:

For General Education Assessments:

1. Listed all action items from either completed 2006-07 General Education Assessment Reports or those in advanced stage of completion (Three Gen Ed Goal Areas: Ethics, Teamwork, & Lifelong learning)
2. Conducted analysis for individual action items (8) and by Gen Ed Goal Area (3)
3. Analyzed coverage by overall area and by sub-area

For Program Assessments:

1. Listed all action items from either completed 2006-07 Program Assessment Reports or those in advanced stage of completion (Six programs: Digital Media, Funeral Services, Emergency Medical Services, Graphics Technology, Respiratory, & Crime Scene Technology)
2. Conducted analysis for individual action items (33) and by program (6)
3. Analyzed coverage by overall area and by sub-area

Five areas were identified (or re-identified) as a result of the analysis. These five areas are:

1. Provide faculty training in development of assessment tools [From 2006/07]
2. Research an Intranet solution to provide college-wide access to assessments and materials [From 2006/07]
3. Suggest revisions to the current general education objectives to Cabinet [From 2006/07]
4. Identify models for capturing and disseminating best classroom practices associated with “real world” experiences
5. Propose to Cabinet that we utilize the BOT rule that all students who apply for graduation be required to take an assessment (e.g., MAPP or other general education areas)

In addition, two other areas were identified through discussions with the members of the Educational oversight group. These two areas are:

1. Explore in-house administration of CCSSE to eCampus students
2. Explore the SSI process from a college-wide perspective

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 also 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 additional in-house assessment experts through QEP process
- Conduct a session in assessment training for faculty as part of the Critical Thinking Institute
- Serve as an institutional resource for programs and faculty conducting assessments

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

Objective for Upcoming Year:

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

Action Steps:

- Explore the new critical thinking gateway website for either incorporation of other Gen Ed Areas or as a model to create other Gen Ed gateway websites
- Improve the accessibility of student outcome data through the online Ed Outcomes database as well as the Institutional Effectiveness/Institutional Research website

III. 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:

- Provide Ed Oversight Group members Gen Ed Outcome examples from other state CCs to be reviewed and shared with subject specific faculty.
- Work with faculty to draft new general education outcomes
- 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

IV. Area Needing Improvement: *Incorporate “real world” experiences into the classroom*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Identify models for capturing and disseminating best classroom practices associated with “real world” experiences

Action Steps:

- Research online models designed to store, share, and disseminate “best practices” among faculty
- Begin creating beta version for faculty to upload and download their “best practices”

V. Area Needing Improvement: *Improve the general education assessment process*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Propose to Cabinet that we utilize the BOT rule that requires that all students who apply for graduation be available to take an assessment (e.g., MAPP or other general education areas)

Action Steps:

- Create a detailed plan for implementation of graduate Gen Ed assessment process
- Share plan and elicit feedback from relevant stakeholder (College Attorney, VPs, etc.)

VI. Area Needing Improvement: *Identify and assess the level of student engagement for eCampus students*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Explore in-house administration of CCSSE to eCampus students

Action Steps:

- Meet with CCSSE (University of Texas at Austin) staff to discuss possibility of performing in-house administration to eCampus students
- Propose the plan for implementation to the president’s Cabinet
- If approved, create online CCSSE based assessment instrument and administer it to eCampus students

VII. Area Needing Improvement: *Identify ways to improve the Student Survey of Instruction (SSI)*

Objective for Upcoming Year:

Explore the SSI process from a college-wide perspective

Action Steps:

- Pilot test the online process for face-to-face classes in the spring

- Conduct a through review of existing items and their relationship with other external instruments such as the CCSSE
- If warranted, revise current items to reflect needs
- Create and test new items in relevant areas (e.g., Critical Thinking, etc.)

Completion and Review Process Information

This Outcomes Assessment Review report was prepared by:

Carol Weideman

Enter Name of Preparer

December 3, 2007

Date