SLO and Steady

SLO News and Updates

Our most recent division workshop was held with Humanities and Fine Arts. It was filled with great questions and interest to improve student learning. Division workshops that have been scheduled are listed on page 2. Division Chairs, if you have not set up a meeting with us, please do so soon. These workshops are essential to ensure that your division is submitting all scheduled assessments.

The entire SLO team will be present to assist you with wrapping up pending assessments and calendars, and answering questions about completed assessments, dialogue, action plans, etc. Please review your SLO calendar beforehand to see what courses are pending and invite your entire faculty to this meeting.

SLO Database

In Pegi Maki’s book Assessing for Learning: Building a Sustainable Commitment Across the Institution (2010), assessment management systems “provide the tools to facilitate and coordinate the underlying tasks that contribute to the assessment process and to the collaborative discussion focused on ways to improve student learning.” After careful review of seven SLO databases (SPOL, TK20, WEAVE, etc), several demos, and heavy deliberation, we have narrowed our choices to TracDat and eLumen as final options. Among other things, our criteria included the following: user-friendly, simple and straightforward design, capability to produce reports and summaries, roll-up capability to PSLOs and ISLOs.

We had a faculty demo for both of these systems on September 30 so faculty could provide feedback about the systems. In addition, we are calling other California community colleges using eLumen and TracDat to get input and feedback on how the software is working for their campuses.

Currently, unlike many of our sister colleges, we do not have an SLO data system that houses our SLO work. The selected SLO database will create a central area for all SLO matters at West. It will also be helpful for faculty in streamlining and centralizing the process by housing and completing everything on one secure website.

Assessment Reminders

1. Review your SLO assessment calendar and understand what courses need to be assessed by the end of the semester. Assessment calendars are posted online at http://www.wlac.edu/committees/slos/Resources.aspx.
2. The deadline to submit assessments each semester is when final grades are due.
3. Seek assistance ahead of time if you need any clarification on the assessment process. SLO Facilitators are listed on page 2.

Myths to Decode

➡ SLOs are not standardized. We (our faculty) make them.
➡ SLO assessment is not just documentation. It is a tool, a cycle to improve learning and success.
➡ SLO assessment does not end after our 4-year cycle; it is an ongoing process of continuous improvement.
SLO & Easy: SLO Tips

SLO Division Workshops

Last semester, we had hands-on workshops with the Business Division and Behavioral and Social Sciences Division. We are moving forward and scheduling hands-on workshops with all divisions. The entire SLO team will be present to assist you with wrapping up pending assessments and answering questions. The following divisions meetings are scheduled this month:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Humanities and Fine Arts</td>
<td>Thurs, Oct 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Wed, Oct 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behavioral and Social Sciences</td>
<td>Mon, Oct 20</td>
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SLO Facilitators

In addition to the SLO Coordinator and Dean of Teaching & Learning, there are six SLO facilitators who are ready to assist you with any questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Luis Cordova</th>
<th>SLO Coordinator</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tbody>
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Redesigned SLO Website

http://www.wlac.edu/committees/slos/index.aspx

With the College’s move to Kentico for our website content management system, the SLO website has been redesigned. There are additional navigational menus located on the left side so SLO resources can be easily located. The webpage is still being updated.

Once we get training, we will continue to improve the navigation and post additional resources and documents from the SLO Committee. If you have any suggestions about the website, please let Luis Cordova or Mary-Jo Apigo know.

SLO Committee

Luis Cordova, Co-Chair
Mary-Jo Apigo, Co-Chair
Kenyatta Bakeer
Elizabeth Bell
Anna Chiang
Jason Coleman
Adrienne Foster
Michael Ghebreab
Katy Kelley
Joy Ogami
Rachelle Okawa
Manish Patel
Hansel Tsai
Adriana Martinez, Resource
Aracely Aguirar, Resource

The SLO Committee reports to the Academic Senate through the Curriculum Committee.

The SLO Committee meets on the fourth Monday of the month from 3 to 4:30 pm in Winlock.

SLO News can also be accessed online at www.wlac.edu/committees/slos/index.aspx.

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