

Learning Council Activity Report 2015-2016

Submitted September 2016

Summary

Council work and activities included forming a work plan to guide council efforts and activities, and align with governance roles and responsibilities. Two major focused work areas comprise the work plan: 1) COPPS review, and 2) draft the Learning Plan. The council also engaged with invited colleagues to help inform our work and work planning, and conducted discussions around meeting procedures and order.

COPPS Review

Work is structured into two stages. The first stage includes Learning Council policy review for currency, relevancy, and purpose (policy, procedure, or mixed). The second stage prioritizes policies and procedures that have been identified for focused Learning Council review and to recognized gaps within the policies. During the second stage, the council assesses if a policy review or revision can be addressed within the council or would benefit from outreach and discussion with other groups.

A COPPS subcommittee (Dawn DeWolf, Phil Martinez, Marleena Pearson, and Jim Salt) has made significant progress in Stage One and has initiated assessment and documentation of policies for further study. To-date the subcommittee has reviewed 40 of 81 COPPS items, and has identified 14 COPPS policies that will need council review due to reasons such as "no governance authority"-or contradictions or inconsistencies. There is interest and preliminary approval to continue subcommittee work during the summer, with an aim to focus the majority of council COPPS review efforts in 2016-17.

Learning Plan

In February, the council finalized a statement of purpose, and formed subcommittees for the plan's development. We organized our work into 3 subcommittees: structure, outreach and question raising. The "structure" subcommittee introduced a draft on May 27th, 2016 and received feedback and suggestions for revisions. Outreach and question raising subcommittees met and brainstormed strategies for campus engagement, input and feedback throughout 2016-17. The structure subcommittee would like to work over the summer to improve the structural draft and present to the council in the fall. In 2016-17 the council will develop strategies and actions to collaborate and build capacity for plan development.

Other Council Activities

We reviewed the governance structure, including roles and responsibilities for faculty, the Executive Team, council members and the council, and the relationship to the College Council. We discussed and devised a method for guests to present issues to the Learning Council (Google Form). We initiated a meeting format that includes standing reports from the chair, curriculum committee, assessment team, and COPPS subcommittee.

Several groups presented to the council on processes and plans related to learning and learning resources. Groups who presented include: Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Strategic Planning Subcommittee, Academic Technology, Open Educational

Resources, Academic Learning Skills, and Math. The council also discussed Better Oregon and its benefit to funding education, including the community college. The council has also engaged in discussions around the “guided pathways” model, major clusters, assessment team visioning work, Achieving the Dream initiatives, and processes around degree tracking and degree evaluation.

A discussion and subsequent motion to adopt a council-level civility policy failed. The chair and vice president attended all college-council meetings to help build understanding and shape opportunities to improve governance at the college.

We welcomed many new members: Claire Dannenbaum (faculty), Jennifer Frei (Executive Dean), Shawn Goddard (student), Steve McQuiddy (faculty), Adrienne Mitchell (faculty), Ce Rosenow (faculty). Tammy Salman (faculty), Leslie Stine (classified), Alyse Stone (manager), and Kate Sullivan (faculty). The council currently has its 16 positions filled and receives excellent support from Anna Kate Malliris in taking minutes and linking relevant council documents on the council webpage.

Contributors:

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