



Trinity Valley Community College
Learning Initiative Council
August 14, 2007

12:00PM Ole' West Steakhouse (Lunch & Meeting)

Present: Jeremy McMillen, Kay Pulley, Wanda Mayes, Janet Lumpkin, Linda Gann, Judy Callicoatt, Janice Sutton, Terry Spurlock, Eric Moseley, Wendy Mays, Russell Self, Kippi Harraid, and Iris Reeves

Absent: None

Guests: Robin Huskey, Tina Rummel, Beth Williams, and Rebecca Whitley

Meeting called to order at 12:55PM

1. Minutes from 4/27/07 reviewed and approved

- Kay introduced the newest council member, Kippi Harraid.
- Robin Huskey's last day at TVCC as the Institutional Research Director is tomorrow; she is leaving to take a position in Kilgore.
- We have a new IR Research Assistant Beth Williams. Beth's first day was 8/13/07.
- Kay introduced Jeremy's assistant, Rebecca Whitley

2. SACS Ruling – Jeremy (Letter Copies, December Announcement)

- Introduced 3 letters from SACS stating we have been reaccredited. The final report requires no additional follow-up. We must send in a one page executive summary.
- We have been approved to do more than 50% of our degrees at a distance (VCT). They will read our name at the annual meeting in December. Terry is now Dean of Distance Education
- Brad Elmore is now Chairperson of Social Science Department
- Linda Gann is the Administrative Intern this year

3. CAAPS & CCSSE Report – Robin (LEAPS & Administrative Outcomes Tied to LI)

Summarized CAAPS Spring 2007 student results. This year's results cannot really be compared to last year but overall our students showed improvement, and we have an idea of where we are with critical thinking (above the national norm). The benchmark for critical thinking is better than our reading results. CCSSE results compare TVCC to other medium colleges and main CCSSE cohort throughout the US, but we more closely resemble the small college consortium. Most of our mean scores are higher than 2005 even in the lower areas, we see improvement. The areas below the mean we need to see improvement in are things like:

- Making class presentations
- Working on paper or project requiring integration of ideas
- Using technology
- Review what makes the difference with part-timer vs. full-time students, and sophomore vs. freshman students

If students gave their social security numbers, we were able to use/pull their data. Remember that CCSSE addresses the entire college experience, and we are compared to other Texas community colleges.

- We improved in everything except academic challenge. We are moving in a positive direction in benchmark scores (30% better in active and collaborative learning). Our goal was to move one decile; we exceeded the goal in most areas. The Learning Academy and Networking Groups should help us to improve. The upcoming Learning Day (on 9/21) should probably address this subject.
- LI to develop prescriptions for distribution to students with suggestions on how to improve reading. This will give instructors something to give students based upon their online scores on Discipline Specific Reading tests, providing a standard set of recommendations. This will work as long as instructors get the feedback from those tests.
- There was a suggestion to cover writing research papers at one of the Lunch and Learn sessions.

4. Update on Learning Frameworks Course and Strategic Plan – Jeremy

- Education 1300 (a student success) course; we have faculty for one section, we need faculty with 18 hours in education or psychology and some learning theory that is willing to teach the course in Athens; please have them contact Jeremy (or else two of the sections will have to be canceled).
- State law is that students can drop 6 courses (unexcused “W”). If they have 7, they will receive a grade in that 7th course. This covers a student’s entire college career and will cause them to lose their Pell Grant. One lab and a lecture are counted as 2 drops, not one. This is new and will have to be included in syllabi beginning in the next semester. It is recommended that the handout include data about change in course cost for students taking courses for the 3rd time.

5. Fall In-Service – Kay (Speaker, Folders, New Ids)

- Jeremy will provide a CAAPS & CCSSE summary at In-service
- The LI is providing overviews of all current projects to include contact person
- Introduced information regarding the lawyer who will speak on the day
- Networking 101 Seminars for teachers is a new activity
- All attendees to complete gray sheet identifying what project they plan to

participate in this year. Sheet to be turned in that day.

- Displayed new campus ID, campus police are helping us by including advertising for the LI and that we are a “Learning Centered College”
- Do we need new name for Learning Day? The Board had a problem with students having a day off. We will leave it as is unless the Board questions it in the spring.

6. LI Budget, etc. – Kay (Learning Lab: Possible Name Change)

- We do not think we will have a full-time person to run the learning lab, but will know for sure when the new budget is approved.
- Without the pressure of an imminent SACS visit, Administrative Outcomes are suffering; more than 50% of people have not turned them in. We need to motivate staff and faculty to make this a priority without the SACS hammer.

Time was running out so a general discussion covered the remaining agenda items or they were deferred until another meeting. No discussion unless noted.
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7. Great Explanations/PODS Discussion – Kay

8. Assessment Team Update – Wendy (Discipline-Specific, etc.)

9. Technology Team Update – Terry (WebCT)

Terry to provide written instructions on how to take Discipline Specific Reading tests online.

10. Academy Team Update – Linda (Academy & Learning Day: Possible Name Change)

11. Engagement Team Update – Janet (Student Networking Groups), Russell (Textbook Websites)

12. Reading Team Update – Wanda

13. Update Team Discussion – Eric

14. Adjourned at 2:37PM, next Meeting to be scheduled after Learning Day