

SLO Newsletter

SLO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NEWS ABOUT THE COLLEGE'S OUTCOME EFFORTS

SUMMER 2008

TAKE A LOOK ↗

- Spring 08 data due October 10th, 08.
- Remember , keep SLOs and their assessment manageable!
- Look for reporting workshops during Fall 08 staff development.
- Instructional program outcomes will be worked on in Spring 09.

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New SLO push

As you may already know, a new push was begun to start assessing student learning outcomes at Gavilan College. This process got a big boost in January with the visit of the venerable Mary Allen. Many faculty took the opportunity to revise their outcomes and develop assessment plans. In Spring '08, the SLO Advisory committee worked to develop a web site for information and examples of course, program, and institutional outcomes.

The committee also developed a set of College Guide-

lines on the College's agreed upon understanding and approach to SLOs. The Committee also provided feedback and suggestions for Randy Brown (SLO Coordinator) in his work trying to support SLO development.

In Spring '08, faculty and student service programs were tasked with actually collecting data based on their updated outcomes. **This data will**

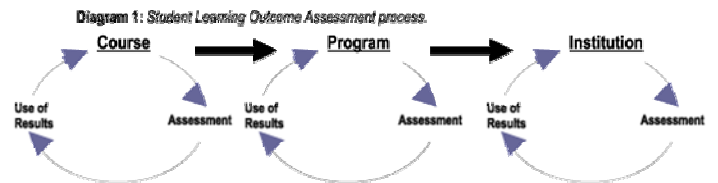
be reported by October 10.

See outcomes website for the submission forms:

<http://www.gavilan.edu/research/lo/index.htm>

By the way, Randy is around to assist with assessment, analysis, and reporting, ext. 4852 rbrown@gavilan.edu

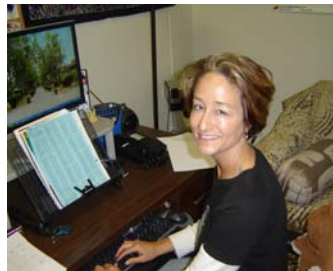
Look for training in Fall 08 staff development days on SLO analysis and reporting.



Outcome Heroes

Gavilan College was recently asked by accreditation to complete a report that detailed the % of courses that had outcomes, assessment plans and results.

While a very large percentage of courses had outcomes and smaller portion of those courses had assessment plans, very few faculty actually had data to report. In fact, only .3% of our courses had data to report. You may ask .3%, that is a strange



number. Well, it represents one outstanding faculty member, Debbie Klein. Her work on her course ANTH 3: *Introduction to Cultural Anthropology* was excellent indeed.

According to Debbie, I

thought collecting and assessing my learning outcome data was going to be a pain in the butt, but in fact, it was easy and interesting. The process affirmed some of the successes of my curriculum and assessment tools and helped me think about how I might change aspects of my curriculum for future semesters.

She deserves to be recognized for her work to be the first. We hope others will join her in Fall so our College can move beyond .3%.

SLO Advisory Committee

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<http://www.gavilan.edu/research/lo/>

Strengthening student learning through assessment and use of SLOs.

The SLO Advisory Committee helps guide the Colleges effort of course, program, and institutional outcomes. We could always use your input. The next meeting is Thursday September 11th, from 2-3, North Lounge.

Work to be done for the 08/09 academic year:

- Reporting of the first round of Spring 08 data.
- Completion and signing of Gavilan College Guidelines document.
- Updating and assessment of Program Outcomes with assistance from Mary Allen, Ph.D.
- Expansion of the number of courses with assessment plans.
- Development of a reporting system for course, program, and institutional outcomes.
- Workshops on data reporting and basic data analysis.

**Check out the SLO website:
<http://www.gavilan.edu/research/lo/>**

Student Services' SLOs

The Student Services Division has also begun an effort to strengthen, assess, and report its program-level learning outcomes. The effort, led by V.P. John Pruitt, places emphasis on improving services and student learning in the student support areas.

"We are very excited to learn more about the impact of our programs on students and to use the assessment process to continually improve our services," Pruitt said. "We have taken a team approach in designing our assessment plans, working and brainstorming as a group to support one another when determining how best to collect and examine the data."

SLO coordinator, Randy Brown, has offered two workshops and a series of individual trainings for student service program representatives.

"Many service programs that had never done this before often need extra assistance," he said.



Student service outcome work

"They have been a fun group to work with," Randy said.

Remarkably, 100% of student services functions have developed assessment plans. The challenge now is regular assessment, reporting, and the use of data.

As data collection continues during the fall semester, the student services areas will be partnering with the faculty to seek support for administering some small surveys in the classroom setting.

This newsletter will keep readers posted on the progress of student service outcome efforts.