Proposed General Education Assessment Plan Oklahoma City Community College Friday, February 15, 2008

Objective:

To assess and recommend actions for the general education component of Oklahoma City Community College's curriculum.

General Strategy:

The General Education Committee will create interdisciplinary teams with members from multiple divisions. Each team will consist of five members with two members specifically teaching in one of the General Education Core Areas. Also, at least one team member will be a representative of the General Education Committee.

Twice a year these teams will evaluate one hundred artifacts from students having attained at least 35 hours of General Education Courses from OCCC. During each Spring Semester, the reports from each team will be shared at the meeting of the whole General Education Committee and dispersed to faculty within each division. Specifically, during the Fall Semester, each team in charge of a specific Student Learning Outcome area will make curriculum recommendations to the General Education Committee. Reports, recommendations, and actions created from the General Education Assessment Process will be stored on the General Education Committee Website. Faculty members on each team will be compensated each semester.

Method:

Developed rubrics will provide common criteria for assessing "artifacts" gathered from various courses. Artifacts may include but are not limited to recorded performances, PowerPoint Presentations, essays, lab reports, capstone projects, research projects, service-learning projects, or any assignment preexisting in a faculty's course. However, the artifacts should adhere to the specific objectives of the Student Learning Outcomes established by the General Education component of OCCC's curriculum.

Nevertheless, the underlying principle of this method is (1) to reduce the intrusive nature of assessment within faculty courses, (2) to create a real environment of student performances within a classroom setting instead of a contrived environment of a forced examination (i.e. CAAP exams not counting for a classroom grade), and (3) to collect artifacts already designed and administered by our professional faculty at OCCC.

The collection process will be interdisciplinary. If an outcome in Math is measured, then the following courses beyond a Math Prefix could also be used: Introduction to Logic, Business Statistics, Behavioral Statistics, Chemistry, Physics, Accounting, Physical Science, or other General Education Courses involving Math and including the objective(s) for the Math Student Learning Outcome. Likewise, data collection could be attained from an outcome in Writing from any course involving writing, including a scientific lab report, as long as it adheres to the objectives of the Writing Student Learning Outcome for the General Education curriculum.

The premise behind this kind of data collection (1) allows for an interdisciplinary approach to the General Education curriculum; (2) creates a shared vision of faculty collaboration beyond the

microcosm of specific divisions; (3) allows for a more accurate depiction of student learning as they progress from one General Education Course to the next; and (4) creates a shared approach to improve student learning and success by reiterating General Education Skills from multiple courses.

Data Collection and Evaluation Process:

- 1. Faculty will submit a copy of student artifacts.
- 2. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness will identify each semester students completing at least 35 credit hours in General Education Courses.
- 3. Selected individuals from Academic Affairs will separate the artifacts into two areas: those students meeting and not meeting 35 credit hours in General Education Courses.
- 4. Selected individuals will also separate the artifacts under the various General Education Outcome Categories.
- 5. Assessment Teams will then receive the artifacts with the assurance of student and professor privacy.
- 6. Assessment Teams will evaluate the Outcomes based on a rubric.
- 7. Assessment Teams will also submit and present a report (with actions or recommendations) to the General Education Committee. Actions and recommendations will also originate from faculty programs and other interdisciplinary meetings at various times during the semester, such as Orientation Week.
- 8. The final reports with specific actions and recommendations will be displayed on the General Education Committee website.