

GECC Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2011, 4:00

Present: Stephanie Hilwig, Margaret Doell, Tony Weathers, Karla Hardesty

Absent: Armando Valdez and Brent King

Meeting began with a short review of the CAAP pre-test results of the freshmen students. More than 300 students took the test, with students falling in approximately the 25th percentile nationwide. This 25th percentile establishes our initial baseline for our own graduating seniors who will be tested for the first time at the end of the Spring semester 2012. Our hope is that our graduating seniors finish at the 50th percentile nationwide. If our students do not meet this objective initially, we will work to move our seniors to the 50th percentile.

Logistically, the testing of freshmen went well; however, the 50 minute class periods did not provide enough time for both instruction time and testing. More time will be needed when the pre-test is administered to freshmen again in 3 years.

The second order of business was to establish the committee's agenda for next semester. The student catalog must be updated to include information on the CAAP test. The catalog should inform students that they will be expected to take the CAAP test their senior year before graduation. The committee will work with Karla to add this information to the catalog.

A summary report of both the alumni survey and the last NSSE survey should be written and made available to the entire campus. This report should be simple and will only highlight the major findings of those surveys as well as make major suggestions for improvement. Stephanie, while on Sabbatical will make sure this report is completed the Spring semester of 2012.

Math questions need to be developed and added to the exam. The CAAP test is weak on math skills and these additional questions will enable us to assess student's basic quantitative skills. Tony Weathers has spoken with the math department and they are aware that these questions should be developed soon. Four questions are to be developed.

The remaining demographic questions need to be added to the test. Only two were included on the freshmen pre-test because the remaining local questions were not relevant for freshmen. Additionally, the local questions should be numbered 0-5, rather than 1-6, putting the response values in line with the answer sheet.

Finally, the logistics for administering the CAAP test to graduating seniors needs to be developed. The consensus was that approximately 3 testing times be established at varying times and days for students to attend and take the test. Fliers should be put around campus as well as notification by all advisors.

Stephanie will no longer be on the committee next semester, so the final business item was to appoint a new chair. For all those present, Armando Valdez was unanimously elected new GECC chair.

Meeting adjourned