

The Higher Learning Commission Action Project Directory

Northeast Iowa Community College

Project Details		
Title	Evaluating Student Learning	Status ACTIVE
Category	1 - Helping Students Learn	Updated
Timeline		Reviewed
Planned Project Kickoff	08-01-2015	Created 10-28-2015
Target Completion	08-31-2016	Version 1

1: PROJECT SUMMARY

A: This Action Project will strengthen the foundation of assessment of student learning across the College community. Participants, faculty (credit and non-credit) and staff from all divisions in the College will be involved in this project. The project will identify key activities to strengthen the community knowledge and ability to assess student learning and ensure the continued growth of the Student Learning Outcomes "SLO" committees.

2: PROJECT RATIONALE

A: This action project was an outcome of a core student learning outcome assessment team participating in the HLC Student Assessment Workshop in July, 2015. During this assessment workshop, the team evaluated the progress on the current action project "Measuring Student Learning Outcomes" and came to the conclusion that the goals of this project were met and the project could be closed. Using the collated group answers on the "Knowledge, Enthusiasm & Reservation Scale for Describing Campus Attitudes toward Assessment of Student Learning" the team identified the need to move into the next action project to strengthen the knowledge and ability to assess student learning across the College environment. This project is a priority to establish a strong foundation for the evaluation of student learning. In the March, 2011 portfolio, the College had outstanding opportunities for growth in the measurement of student learning. The recently submitted 2015 portfolio evidences the College has revised the student learning outcomes, organized student learning committees and is working to establish a culture of student learning. This action project will move the College forward in strengthening this goal.

3: PROJECT GOALS AND DELIVERABLES

A: Goal:

1. To increase the understanding of the assessment of student learning across the College community.

Timeline of initiatives:

August, 2015

- Convocation – VPAA update College community on SLO assessment and upcoming learning activities
- VPAA – revise Faculty Development application to include SLO enhanced by the learning
- Quality Council – Approve "Evaluating Student Learning Action Plan"
- VPAA and HR – Integrate SLO assessment into hiring information
- VPAA and SLO team co-leaders – initiate application for HLC Assessment Academy (Spring, 2016)
- Academic team review SLO identification on course guides, program matrices and syllabus template
- HLC Assessment Workshop Team – develop a College-wide assessment evaluating the College knowledge and ability to assess SLOs

September, 2015

- VPAA and SLO team co-leaders- Review SLO committee composition and invite new members
- Academic Faculty Development team, SLO team co-leaders, Faculty trainers - identify and upload SLO resources to the faculty and staff development site.
- College Community – takes the assessment evaluating the College knowledge and ability to assess SLOs

October, 2015

- SLO committees -SLO faculty/staff development offerings at Faculty Development Day

November, 2015

- VPAA send in application for HLC Assessment Academy
- Academic Faculty Development team, SLO team co-leaders, Faculty trainers – complete SLO resource upload and add learning link to Faculty Development site

December, 2015

- SLO teams collate inventory assessment initiatives and establish an archive of examples

January, 2016

- Convocation – VPAA update College community on SLO assessment and upcoming learning activities
- SLO committees -SLO faculty/staff development offerings at Faculty Workshop Week
- Academic deans - Integrated SLO assessment into new faculty orientation
- Academic deans – link SLO assessment to Credit Program review process

February, 2016

- Mid-year evaluation of AQIP Action Project timelines, outcomes and adjustments made
- SLO committees make a call for SLO poster presentations for April “All College Day”

April, 2016

- All College Day Poster presentations
- Team participates in HLC Assessment Academy- review and revise AQIP action project for upcoming year

May, 2016

- College Community – takes the assessment evaluating the College knowledge and ability to assess SLOs
- SLO teams collate inventory assessment initiatives and establish an archive of examples
- Quality Council approves revised AQIP Action Project

June, 2016

- Meta assessment

August, 2016

- SLO teams collate inventory assessment initiatives and establish an archive of examples

4: INSTITUTIONAL INVOLVEMENT

A: This action project will be reviewed and approved by the College Quality Council which has representatives from all departments on it. This initiative of this action project will enhance the understanding and ability of each member in the College community to assess student learning outcomes more effectively.

5: PROJECT CONTROL

A: The completion of each initiative will serve as a measure of progress. In addition, a College wide assessment evaluating the College knowledge and ability to assess SLOs will be done at the beginning and end of the academic year which will identify progress made in this area. These initiatives will be conducted according to the above timeline.

6: ANTICIPATED CHALLENGES TO PROJECT SUCCESS

A: The challenge of getting all departments engaged in the assessment of student learning can only be done with continued efforts to engage the College community and share the progress made. Time is always viewed as a challenge. However, the assessment of student learning is core to the mission of the College.

7: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A: If the College is accepted to the HLC Assessment Academy, this initiative will be evaluated and determined if the breadth of those activities should be identified in a separate action project.

