

**2011-2012 PROGRAM REVIEW**  
**CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS**  
**AS A RESULT OF SLO/PLO ASSESSMENTS**

**INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS**

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| BIOLOGY                                | The Biology 121, Physiology course, obtained the Biopac student lab system in Fall, 2010. This lab system allows the students to run their own electrocardiographs (ECGs) and to learn to evaluate the various waves, segments, and intervals generated by the electrical activity of the heart using the ECGs. As part of the assessment for PLO1 of the Health Science Biology Program, the cardiovascular exams in the capstone course, Biology 121, was compared in the semester before the use of the Biopac lab system, Fall 2010, with the semester in which the Biopac lab system was used. There was a 4% increase in the average grade on the cardiovascular exam in the Spring 2011 semester when it is compared to the average grade on the same exam in the Fall 2010 semester. |
| CONT. ED.<br>BUSINESS & LIFE<br>SKILLS | In Oct. 2011, the division held a 3.5 hr. workshop on how to assess a course and integrate changes based on assessments. A follow-up all day retreat in January 2012 was planned.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| ENGLISH                                | Overall, reports indicate that a majority of students are achieving the desired outcomes in courses. Areas involving critical understanding and mastery of writing indicate relatively strong achievement, while areas of mechanics, such as grammar and documentation, indicate only marginal success.<br>The division is currently examining methods to address the issues revealed by an analysis of outcomes assessment. We are scheduling best practice sessions for instructors, conducting discussions aimed at unifying the division's approach to instruction and evaluation of mechanics. Additionally, the division is working with the learning center to develop workshops and expand tutoring opportunities for students.                                                      |
| CREDIT ESL                             | After running the grammar and writing assessments, the division decided to redo the curriculum for four classes (ESL 123, 133, 141, and 151). The division has already made changes to four SLOs related to the teaching of writing. These revised SLOs will be used for the next cycle of assessment reporting which begins this semester. The division has decided to do a major overhaul of the grammar and writing sequence. This will be followed by corresponding changes in the reading sequence.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| HEALTH<br>SCIENCES                     | The results of the assessments have been helpful. The lab/seminar courses NS 201, 202, 203, and 214, have implemented simulation as teaching methodology into their curriculum. Simulation is designed to enhance student learning and experiences for preparation in the clinical areas. Also, practicum has been added into the core medical/surgical classes in each semester for psychomotor skills success and clinical enhancement prior to clinical rotation entry.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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| LANGUAGE ARTS            | Assessment has led the instructors to provide more in-class conversational settings for students to prepare basic ASL conversational skills in ASL 101 and more impromptu in-class and outside conversations in ASL 102 to prepare for ASL 103 and 104.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| LIBRARY SCIENCES         | Instructors of Library 191 found that approximately 75% of students who passed the class with a "C" or better in 2010-2011 met three student learning outcomes. As a result of both the quantitative and qualitative information they plan to re-constitute Lib. 191 as a 3 unit Lib. 101, add a pre-or co-requisite: Engl. 101. The pre-/co-requisite would increase the likelihood that students enrolled in Library 101 would have the skills, focus, and ability to succeed in the course.                                                                                          |
| MATHEMATICS              | In Math's first year of giving a common final, a significant difference in the GPA of students taught by adjuncts and that of full time instructors was determined, yet the performance of adjuncts' students on exams was significantly lower than that of full-time instructor's students. Data was used to show the discrepancy and the topics that needed to be emphasized. Since the first year there has been a swing in data with the adjuncts' scoring results more closely aligning with the full-timers' scores. Workshops are held each semester to improve the assessments. |
| NON-CREDIT ESL           | Non-Credit ESL changes from assessments included the addition of a writing component to their placement exam and a writing and speaking component to their exit exams.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PHYSICAL SCIENCES        | Based on assessments of Chemistry 110, it was discovered that only 64 to 83% of students were achieving the SLO. A lab manual was written to give the student more practice in problem solving techniques that will help them to improve their success in achieving their SLO's                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| SOCIAL SCIENCES          | We will be using eLumen to gather aggregate data for a second year in Fall 2011. This data will help focus our discussion on assessment, content, and pedagogy. It will also help to organize staff development activities that address the development and expression of critical thinking as a basic skill.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS | The dance faculty is paying more attention to the dance science components as a result of the assessments conducted. Faculty and students have now increased understanding of how properly applied dance science techniques prevent injury. The written component of exams has been increased.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| STUDENT DEVELOPMENT      | Student Development courses have well established SLOAC's and the Student Services Division is using the SLOAC information to make changes in Course Outlines, provide workshops for faculty teaching the same courses, and in the delivery of general information to students as evidenced in the minutes of the Student Services Division meetings and the Student Learning outcomes workshops/retreats minutes .                                                                                                                                                                     |

| <b>STUDENT SERVICES PROGRAMS</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| Academic Counseling              | Generally, students seem satisfied with the counseling services and indicated that the student educational plan developed with their counselor has proved to be helpful. We are currently looking at doing some revision of the questions in the assessment survey.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Admissions & Records             | Admissions & Records is now tracking student complaints to identify common issues and enable the department to strategize ways to reduce them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Assessment Center                | The Assessment Center will continue to inform students about the importance of studying/reviewing testing materials through online, print, and in-person promotional efforts along with making complete study materials available on line. If more students understood the importance of the assessment tests, they would be more likely to take the test seriously and prepare themselves accordingly. The staff will continue to explain the purpose of the assessment tests and how they are related to course prerequisites. |
| Athletics                        | We would like to increase the number of first-year student athletes who complete their SEP's during their first semester of attendance at GCC. The athletics counselor, athletics eligibility specialist, and athletics director will review intervention strategies to increase SEP completion among first-year student athletes.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| DSPS                             | Efforts will be made toward increasing students' awareness of the various DSPS services available to them. DSPS-based curriculum will continue to be modified and "tweaked" to remain current with trends in demand, changes in technology and developments in accommodation strategies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| EOPS                             | The assessment validated the importance of individual counseling appointments and the need for preparation of probation contracts with counselors. Based on the assessment results the program maintained its current policy of making counseling appointments available and requiring all students on probation to meet with EOPS counselors on appointment basis to prepare probation contracts.                                                                                                                               |
| Financial Aid                    | Students are filing the FAFSA electronically and accessing MyGCC to monitor their financial aid status resulting in applications being completed on a more timely basis. We are sending all group and mass communications by email. Student's inquiries indicate that students are using MyGCC.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Library                          | Workshops: Revisions are regularly made to workshops (changes were implemented in Fall 2011) based on regular assessment of SLOs. Title V funding is being sought in support of revision and expansion of the library instruction program to better meet the needs of basic skills students.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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| International Students         | <p>The International Student office will continue to update the on-line newsletter, in an effort to inform students of their responsibilities as well as changes to policy and procedures.</p> <p>Additional questions have been added to the on-line survey to address SLO#1 – Students will understand critical elements of living and studying in the U.S.A.</p> <p>The creation of an exit survey will provide additional data in regards to completion of educational goals and/or plans upon leaving GCC, e.g. optional practical training, transfer to a four year institution, etc.</p>                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Learning Center                | <p>In order to analyze SLO data more effectively, it will be necessary to create electronic versions of tutor logs and student exit surveys that can be saved in a database. This will allow us to easily chart student progress during a semester. We will need to make sure tutors have laptops so they can input this data. We are currently working with ITS to create electronic forms and a functional database. The ultimate goal is for faculty to receive feedback from tutoring sessions, so they can monitor student progress. Hopefully, this will also increase the number of tutoring referrals we receive and further invest faculty in the Center and our mission. This will also improve are data in the first and second SLO's listed above.</p> |
| Center for Student Involvement | <p>Since the program outcomes reflect learning connected to other Institutional SLOs, we will be working on adding new questions to measure whether service learning and volunteerism assists students with gaining workplace skills. This will be done in consultation with the students who work in our office as well as our service learning subcommittee. These new questions, related mostly to career skills, will be added for the 2011-2012 academic year survey which measures our SLOs.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Student Services               | <p>Generally, students seem satisfied with the counseling services and indicated that the student educational plan developed with their counselor has proved to be helpful. We are currently looking at doing some revision of the questions in the assessment survey.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Student Activities             | <p>Student Activities has increased communication to the campus community with the various student sponsored events and activities both on- and off-campus. We have been working with IT to increase communication with the student body through access to the new student emails.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Transfer Center                | <p>The primary purpose of our SLO was to assess students' knowledge of the transfer process and how supportive we have been as a Transfer Center. With the exception of a couple of students, we were effective in teaching transfer requirements and providing quality service. Results made us aware that our efforts to inform students of the minimum transfer requirements are working, but we need to continue to educate students on transfer strategies such as GPA requirements.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |