

Senate Accreditation Task Force Report to Academic Senate

Fall 2017

Recommendation #2: *In order to increase effectiveness, the team recommends that the College revisits its institution set standards on a regular basis to ensure they remain appropriate and useful for determining institutional effectiveness. (I.B.3, ER11)*

In response to *Recommendation #2*

The Senate Task Force Recommends:

1. Beginning Fall of 2017, and continuing thereafter, the Senate's 2nd meeting of September will have on the Agenda the annual review and discussion of the Program Set Standards.
2. Beginning Spring of 2017, and continuing thereafter, the Senate's 2nd meeting of March will have on the Agenda the annual review and discussion of the Institution Set Standards.

Recommendation #1: *In order to meet the Standard and Eligibility Requirements, the team recommends that when the College establishes institution-set standards for student achievement, including job placement rates, it consistently publishes this information. The team further recommends that when the College identifies gaps between performance and institutional-set standards appropriate to its mission, it implements strategies to mitigate those gaps and evaluate the efficacy of those strategies. (I.B.3, I.B.6, ER11, ER19)*

In response to *Recommendation #1*

Job placement data is available from the Employment Development Department in late March. As soon as it is available, the Dean of Research and Planning will distribute this information to the appropriate CTE Programs.

The Senate Task Force Recommends:

1. The Senate should draft a letter to the ACCJC relating our concern that Job Placement Rates do not accurately reflect if a student is working in their CTE field. Using data that doesn't reflect the accuracy of job placement feels meaningless.
2. When the data is sent out to the Programs, it be sent to Division Chairs *and* Department Heads.
3. The Vice-President of Instruction (who is also Accreditation Liaison Officer) is ultimately responsible for making sure that the faculty of the CTE programs have reviewed, discussed and made appropriate changes to their Job Placement set standards AND report their standards to the Dean of Research and Planning before the end of the Spring semester.
4. Should a program's performance drop below their own set standard(s), the Senate Task Force recommends that the Senate ask the affected department to answer the following questions (the responses to be reviewed in the September Senate meeting):

- *Has your department made any changes to address the job placement rate?*
- *What could be reasons for why the Employment Rate is low?*
- *Based on Labor Market Data, demonstrate whether there is sufficient demand for the program. Utilize this data to also establish whether there is an industry need for the program within the local community and overall region.*
- *What can be done to increase the number of completers or employment rate?*
- *What can be done to improve the employ-ability of graduates?*
- *Does the program require enhancements (curriculum, instructional methods, etc.)?*
- *Is the program-set standard appropriate? Should it be increased or decreased?*
- *Is the program obsolete (refer to Enhancement/Sunset Policy)?*

Senate recommends that program faculty seek recommendations from CTE advisory committees.

Senate recommends that program faculty include in Program Review, a plan of actions to improve and update later with results.

Recommendation #4: *In order to increase effectiveness, the team recommends that the College formalize and record its widespread, but often informal, efforts to assess student learning outcomes at the course, program, and institutional levels in order to improve student learning and support programs, to fine-tune processes, and to allocate resources as appropriate. (I.B.6, II.A.1, II.A.3, II.A.11).*

In response to *Recommendation #4*

On June 1, 2017, the Senate approved unanimously the newly designed form that the Learning Outcome Committee created to address Recommendation #4. No action on behalf of the Task Force is required.

Recommendation #8: *In order to increase effectiveness, the team recommends that the College revises the evaluation forms for faculty, counselors, and librarians to more clearly and effectively demonstrate that the results of the assessment of learning outcomes are used to improve teaching and learning.*

In response to *Recommendation #8*

The District has placed this item as a reopener for negotiations with the Guild.

The Senate Task Force Recommends:

- ~~1. The Senate should wait until the District and the Guild work on this issue through negotiations. Once that process is complete, the Guild should bring the new Evaluation Form to the Senate for approval.~~

8/16/17 Update to Recommendation #8 – At the July 2017 session of the ACCJC Commission, the Board Members voted to approve the following change to the Standards:

Remove Standard III.A.6 - The evaluation of faculty, academic administrators, and other personnel directly responsible for student learning includes, as a component of that evaluation, consideration of how these employees use the results of the assessment of learning outcomes to improve teaching and learning.

The ACCJC is currently taking comments from members regarding the removal of this Standard. January 2018 will be a final ruling. The Senate Task Force recommends that we do NOT act on this recommendation until the final ruling comes out of the ACCJC.