

Natural Sciences Division SLO Meeting

2/26/2019 at 1 pm

NS Division Office Conference Room

Minutes

In Attendance: Shimonee Kadakia, Eyal Goldmann, T. James (“Jim”) Noyes, Margaret Steinberg, Nancy Freeman

Department SLO leaders reported on the status of their departments. All courses on the timelines are being offered and plans are in the works for assessing them. The leaders believe that their faculty knew their assignments and would have their SLO reports in by the due date (Friday, 3/1).

Margaret discussed how Life Sciences will be distributing more of the work among the faculty this semester.

Jim noted that Earth Sciences will be using the Qualtrics survey system purchased by ECC to administer some parts of SLO assessments via students’ phones and laptops, and that he would report on how it went later.

The leadership for the physics department changed last year. Eyal said they are still figuring out what to do, but that everything is on track. He needs to write a PLO report as does Shimonee (Astronomy) and Jim (Earth Science). We discussed PLO assessment strategies, like focusing on skills common to all of the courses in a sequence and students’ level of achievement at the end of the sequence. We discussed the pro’s and con’s of having a PLO assessment for all or most courses vs. using SLO assessment data. Shimonee noted that one of the challenges for her PLO assessment is that the few students take both of the courses, do not necessarily take them in the same order, and do not necessarily take them one after the other.

Jim spoke to Ryan Turner (chemistry representative) before the meeting, and he reported that Chem 21B will only be assessed in fall semesters in the future.

Submitted by Jim Noyes