

## **Natural Science SLO Committee Minutes 5/18/2010**

Meeting was held on May 18, 2010 at 1:00pm in room LS101

**Attendees:** Jean Shankweiler, Amy Grant, Nancy Freeman, Jim Noyes, Margaret Steinberg, Susana Prieto, S. Vincent Lloyd

### **Program Level Update**

Each department gave an update on their program level slo progress. Biology has already submitted their microscope use slo for the biology program. At the last brown bag, Nancy reported they discussed completing the Scientific Method slo. Jim suggested the Scientific Method Slo would be a good division level slo and maybe all departments could assess for next round. Amy reported that the chemistry department is doing an early and late assessment for the lab safety assessment and the second round of assessments is coming in now. Susana is waiting for only one more instructor for the physics assessment. Margaret reported they are almost done with the microscope slo for the pre-allied health classes. Vincent reported the astronomy department is having difficulty agreeing on the assessment. One thing they have learned in their discussions so far is that maybe they are trying to teach too much in their survey classes, especially Astronomy 25. A discussion followed about general education survey classes and how to teach a survey class that is meaningful. One insight was to find areas in which you are being inefficient. One person indicated they are struggling with slo's and do we really need them to make decisions about our courses. It was pointed out that we likely wouldn't have started a lot of the discussions with the slo mandate.

### **Complete SLO set for departments**

The discussion here went back to a division SLO of Scientific Method. It was discussed that all departments could use the article approach to determine levels of understanding for the scientific method. We could recommend general levels of articles for each department and then have a check off questionnaire in common for the different departments. Nancy said from her earlier experience with this slo, she realized the students really don't get a good understanding of scientific method and that classroom discussions and lab use of scientific method need to be very overt. The students need practice identifying and recognizing variables and controls.

### **Data for Compton**

Jean reminded each department to send her the program level data submitted by the Compton faculty. In addition to the combined program level slo report, the Compton Center faculty need to submit individual reports for their courses and programs. Some faculty may have sent us their data for evaluation and Jean needs to make sure they have what is needed for their reports.

Adjourned at 1:35pm

Submitted: jms 5/19/2010