2012 Evaluation Visit

March 19-22, 2012

Interviewee(s): Eric Chong and Gary Hartz

Interviewer(s): Dr. Adam Karp and Rhea Riegel

Venue: LRC Rm#4129

Other Participants:

What questions were you asked?

1. How do you assess SLOs?
2. How do you assess ILOs?
3. How is the merger of Curriculum and Gened Committees going?

         What responses did you give to these questions?

1. GCC uses the assessment process (TracDat) to assess SLOs. SLOs are generally assessed at the department / program level, and linkages to the assessment process are identified on proposed course / program documents.
2. GenEd subcommittee has operationalized ILOs and is working on assessing them. A template for identifying which (operationalized) ILOs are introduced, emphasized and reinforced in each GenEd course is being finalized.
3. Regardless of structure, we have a commitment to communication and collaboration around GenEd / Curriculum linkages. At the end of the last year, the LOC decided to continue the combined structure for another year, with the structural question being addressed this spring. At this point, there are some members who may recommend separating the two committees.

         What things did the team want to see or find out about your program, department, or unit?

 The visiting team just clarified what was written about LOC in the Standards Committee report.

         What issues did they raise?

 No issues were raised.

         What did you not expect from their line of questioning?

 The visiting team’s misunderstanding of LOC role initially because at their colleges, they have SLO committees that assess SLOs and the members mistakenly thought LOC is responsible for assessing SLOs. We clarified that LOC’s role is curriculum and general education and GCC’s CCA is responsible for assessment.

         What questions were you unable to answer?

 None

         What thoughts/suggestions do you have as a result of your interview experience?

 When we found common ground with team members, for example, our colleges’ struggle to ensure SLOs use measurable verbs, there was a special bonding.

Also, if you attended one or both open forums, can you also document the process, in terms of the questions asked, responses, etc.  This will be very valuable information for future preparations we need to make in succeeding visits.

 During a forum Eric attended, the visiting team wants to know why we are proud of GCC. It was heartwarming to hear testimonies not only from staff but from students.

None of the visiting team attended the LOC meeting we’d scheduled for the Wednesday afternoon of their visit. Apparently, this was because of their need to meet as a large group during that time. We’d hoped that they would have the chance to see us in action, as we worked to revise the Curriculum Manual. It may be helpful to strategize on how to increase the chances that the next visiting team will be able to observe the Curriculum / GenEd process in action (should they value this kind of observation.)

I was very impressed with most every aspect of the accreditation process / visit. I thought we might be asked about how / why we moved from specific GenEd SLOs to the broader ILOs but such questions were not asked.