

Victor Valley Faculty Senate Resolution

Full-time Student Learning Outcome and Assessment Coordinator

Whereas, Over approximately the past thirty years, the public and the legislature have urged an increasing level of accountability for higher education, expressing that accreditation processes have been ineffective in improving education;

Whereas, The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) 2002 Accreditation Standards requires integration of learning outcomes and assessment into every aspect of institutional responsibility;

Whereas, The Board of Trustees of Victor Valley Community College District ratified Board Policy Resolution 4000 which commits the college to “uphold high standards of educational excellence in the quality and currency of curriculum,” including the implementation of the “mandatory components” of “student learning outcomes and their systematic assessment” (Victor Valley Community College District).

Whereas, The abundance of tasks involved in developing acceptable and effective student learning outcomes and assessment methods requires intense, time-consuming work along with knowledge, training, and expertise that faculty cannot fulfill with their other extensive duties;

Whereas, The tasks involved in developing student learning outcomes and assessment include maintaining data and records; writing progress reports for accreditation and Annual Reports; planning college-wide assessment at the course level, program level, and institution level in a broad range of areas; developing mechanisms for training and communication (a web site, inputting and accessing data); developing relationships with the Senate Budget Committee, Research Office, Academic Senate, ASB; serving on the Learning Assessment Committee, Curriculum Committee, Graduation Requirements Committee, Institutional Effectiveness Committee, Accreditation Self-Study Steering Committee, Program Review Committee; meeting with appropriate administrators; attending off-campus meetings, including SLO Coordinator meetings, the Annual SLO Conference, and Academic Senate workshops;

Whereas, The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges concludes that “It has become clear that colleges attempting to meet the outcomes and assessment standards without a faculty designated position that includes reassigned time, report being woefully behind” (Academic Senate for California Community Colleges 14);

Whereas, Since Victor Valley College has suffered years of lack of administrative leadership, we are currently out of compliance with accreditation agencies, Title V, the Chancellor’s Office, and other agencies and we need to reinvest efforts toward these tasks;

Whereas, The entire student body and the institution will benefit from current, clear, coherent, and conforming Student Learning Outlines and assessment to guide instruction;

Therefore be it Resolved, That Victor Valley College requisition a new Faculty position of full-time Student Learning Outcomes Coordinator.

Therefore be it further Resolved, That due to the urgency of the need for the position, That the hiring process be initiated immediately, and That the employee begin working no later than the beginning of the Spring Semester 2008.

Works Cited

- Academic Senate for California Community Colleges. Agents of Change: Examining the Role of Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Coordinators in California Community Colleges. 23 Sept 2007.
- Victor Valley Community College District. "Draft: Standards of Educational Excellence: BP 4000."
Victor Valley Community College District Board Policy. 9 October 2007.