**Assessment Committee – 10/27/14**

Present: Renee Harber, Sue Goff, Kate Gray, Jackie Flowers, Yvonne Smith, Sharon Parker, Tory Blackwell, Matthew Altman

1. Share a **CAT** (Classroom Assessment Technique)…

Jackie described a project in which her students, in groups, research an accused witch in the Salem Witch Trials. Primary documents are online. The goal of the project is to put together a story of the accused from the primary sources. They analyze the documents, discover the contradictions and gaps, and more. At the end, she asks them to come up with questions about researching.

Tory described the fact that lab reports are often missing some of the basic components like abstracts. He and the Biology team decided to create a “how to write a lab report” video and the number of students who omitted abstracts fell from about 20% to 3%. When asked what resources they used in writing their first lab report, the students said they watched the “how to” video. The Biology team has created a CCC Science department YouTube channel, and they want to create more videos…

2. Report out:

**New faculty training**

The group decided to try to collect what departments are already doing for assessment training. Kate will be collecting that information for Turtle 10 starting in late November.

**Software for assessment**

Sharon handed out a chart of core data needs for program review. (will send to everyone) She also illustrated how helpful a robust software system would be by manipulating data she entered manually into a spreadsheet, then a bar graph, then a line graph. Sharon will meet with Kate and an assessment software program (CampusLab) in early November. All are welcome. Sue Goff brought marketing info from the many vendors at the Assessment Institute.

**Gen ed program**

Much discussion, not much to report right now.

**Conferences**

Kate and Sue attended the Assessment Institute. Kate reported that there were repeated messages: a good assessment program is a good professional development program; we need to divorce assessment from accountability and from accreditation; assessment is not about standardization but about having standards… Dave and Eden were very excited about the ePortfolio tract at the conference, the way that students can upload their work into a system for assessment purposes and then take their ePortfolio with them. Sue mentioned that assessment is more action-research than other types of research.

3. The first cycle of program review is almost ending. How can we offer a report out of findings and a celebration?

Kate is setting up a “First Thursday” type gallery walk of faculty achievements. The first one is a Moodle shell share, and we could do the second one, in December, as a program review share… Please save Thursday, Dec. 4, at noon in CC127.

4. Request:

**Student participation?** Jackie suggested we find students for particular topics and tasks and not for the umbrella work.

**Reading**: NILOA best practice, [LaGuardia Community College](mailto:http://www.learningoutcomeassessment.org/CaseStudyLaGuardiaCC.html)

This 9-page reading shows a really great example of a school that integrated assessment and used ePortfolios really well.

5. Please fin the AAC&U **Value rubrics** attached. Useful? (trying not to reinvent…) These rubrics for 16 disciplines are geared for capstone classes and/or assessing rubrics. They’ve been researched and tested across many community colleges, colleges, and universities. See what you think.

Future:

**Next meeting**: F, Nov. 7, 1:30-3pm

CLC will create a series of **workshops for faculty**

Designing courses

Assessment vs. grading

Tools to find out where your students start

Tools to find out what education works and worked for your students

Tools to discover where your students end up

Creating and using rubrics

Etc.

If you have ideas/suggestions, please let Kate know.

**Frequent flyer card**: the more ways you participate in institutional assessment, the more punches…. If you bring someone else to a meeting, you get 3 punches.

Agenda in the future: bring people in who are doing great assessment, assessment awards, creating tools, more? Kate will ask Stefan Berrato to present his sabbatical project that assessed the math department classes… We’ll also try to compile a list of the following:

What are all the assessment efforts going on that we know about?

Lots of faculty

Programs, instructional and student services

Title 2

Vocational programs (nursing, water quality, etc.)

Others?