

**CLUSTER MINUTES**

**March 26, 2015**

**1:30 – 3:30pm**

**Lake Worth Campus**

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- ITEM 1.** Please discuss the data collected in the fall of 2014 for your cluster’s selected embedded assessment for General Education and provide (1) your recommended competency benchmark for the selected outcome for each Gen Ed course in your cluster; and (2) your plan for administering the fall 2014 assessment again in fall 2015. If ideas emerge that will help make the embedded assessment process more useful for faculty after the fall 2015 cycle, those comments are welcome also.

**A form (attached) is provided for this information to be returned to the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness by April 30, 2015. Suggestions, if needed, to guide the discussion and decisions are included on the form.**

Discussion: N/A- cluster is not part of general education

Data source: General Education Embedded Assessment Results, collected and reported in fall 2014 by faculty/adjuncts, compiled by IRE; assessment instruments as selected by faculty; General Education Embedded Assessment Spring 2015 Updates

Action: None needed

**MATH CREDIT ONLY:**

- ITEM 2.** Many colleges in Florida are changing pre-requisite math courses. Right now, PBSC requires a pre-req for MGF1106, MGF1107, STA2023 and MAC1105 – the pre-req is MAT1033 (or sufficient placement scores). Should we still require the pre-req of MAT1033 for MGF1106, MGF1107 and STA2023? (Students who are “exempt” under the SB1720 rules would be able to take MGF1106, MGF1107 or STA2023). All “non-exempt” students would continue to use placement scores as governed by law.

Discussion: N/A- cluster is not a math credit cluster

Data/data source: (where appropriate)

Action: None needed

- ITEM 3. Honors SLS**

Discussion: Marcella Montesinos shared with the cluster that Manny Larenas and Karline Prophete will be teaching sections of the newly approved SLS 1501 Honors course. The course will include a service learning component and a financial literacy focus.

Data/data source: (where appropriate)

Action: Faculty on the PBG or BG campus who might want to teach this course should contact Marcella.

#### **ITEM 4. Linking Courses to College-Wide Outcomes**

Discussion: Susan Bierster requested that a document outlining college outcomes for all SLS courses be discussed. The cluster discussed the courses and the outcomes and the documents were completed.

Data/data source: (where appropriate)

Action: Sophia Munro will give the completed documents to Susan early next week.

#### **ITEM 5. Learning Outcomes**

Discussion: As discussed in a previous cluster meeting, the cluster members began discussing and developing “critical” assignments related to the four learning outcomes. These assignments will provide students with a more consistent SLS experience on all four campuses enabling all students to achieve the course learning outcomes. Pam Mason-Egan and Monica Hamlin presented a draft version of a possible assignment linked to outcome #1. Mark Hendrix verbally described a potential assignment for outcome 3 and Sandy Demauro shared the progress related to learning outcome 4. Due to the variety of topics addressed by outcome 4, the cluster suggested that the sub-committee focus on just one of the key academic skills (versus trying to address all skills).

In order to share assignments and promote more discussion outside of the formal cluster meetings, Manny Larenas requested that a Blackboard shell be created for the SLS cluster. He has posted a video that describes how the shell is organized. James Robinette shared that, in the future when the assignments have been finalized, a GB shell holding the 4 assignments can be created and copied by all faculty for use in their classes.

Data/data source: (where appropriate)

Action: Sub-committees will continue to work on this project. Monica/Pam and Mark H. will send out the draft versions of their proposed assignments for cluster review. Cluster members should evaluate the potential “critical” assignments to determine if the assignment fulfills the learning outcome and meets the unique needs of the individual campuses.

#### **ITEM 6. Cluster Chair 2015-2016**

Discussion: Sophia Munro agreed to serve as cluster chair for an additional year.

Data/data source: (where appropriate)

Action: None needed

**ITEM 7. Included**

Discussion: Magdala Ray shared some information about a program proposed by the Follett bookstores. The program states that the cost of the book would be included in the students' tuition/fees. Once the student pays, he/she will be able to go the bookstore and pick up the book. The cluster discussed the various pros and cons of this program. Some pros include: more students actually obtaining the textbook, more money generated for the college, more money generated for the bookstore, and potential savings to the students due to the larger volume of book sales. Some cons include: reduced opportunities for students to purchase the book elsewhere and increased out-of-pocket costs for students whose books are not covered by financial aid. Since the book comes with a variety of online learning tools (ex: LearnSmart) that would be included in the cost, the faculty was concerned that all faculty would be required to use all of the tools (since the students were paying for them).

Data/data source: (where appropriate)

Action: The cluster would like more input from the college administration regarding the college's perspective on this program before making any decisions.

**ITEM 8. SLS Happenings**

Discussion: The PBG campus will be launching a Collegiate High School program in the fall. This early admissions program is for HS students who are completing their fourth year of high school AND their first year of college simultaneously. These students will be part of a cohort and take a variety of STEM courses together. The program will also include transdisciplinary assignments. Magdala Ray will be teaching the SLS 1501 course "linked" to this program.

Mark Hendrix is developing a modular online learning tool called mypath101. This tool will focus on helping students pick a career, research the career, and create a brand identity. He will be piloting it this summer.

Data/data source: (where appropriate)

Action: Faculty interested in more information about either of these happenings, should contact Magdala or Mark H.

**OTHER.** The cluster wishes Jyrece McClendon a speedy recovery.

**Attendance:**

**Marcella Montesinos (Honors College)**

**Freddie Bennett**

**Mark Davis**

**Sandra Demauro**

**Monica Hamlin**

**Mark Hendrix**

**Pamela Mason-Egan**

**Jyrece McClendon**

**Sophia Munro, Cluster Chair**

**Magdala Ray**

**Vanger Simmons**

**James Robinette**

**Absent:**

**Karline Prophete\***

**Joyce Kevetos\***

**Manny Larenas\***

**Jeannette Sullivan\***

**Jyrece McClendon**

**\*Participating in another college event on the PBG campus**

Submitted by:

Sophia Munro

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Scribe

c. Minutes Distribution List