Kennedy-King College Assessment of Student Learning Project: Writing Across the Curriculum

Implementation Timeline

Kennedy-King College entered the Academy in Fall 2009. During the initial roundtable, two projects were sketched out as part of the student learning project for the institution. One was to develop a cohort around an entrepreneurship course that included general education courses such as Math, Business, English, and Speech. In doing so, the goal was to infuse general education outcomes into the business course through written assignments, math computations, and presentations.

WAC Progress 2012-2013

In 2011, Writing Across the Curriculum was retooled with better sample submission process, improvement in the scoring process, and improvement in the feedback loop.

Specifically, the Committee has worked to make the analytical scoring rubric more "usable".

Another significant change to the project has been its incorporation into the College’s larger efforts to assess its general education outcomes. With the assistance and support of the Office of Instruction, the Committee has adopted a more systematic sample submission process. In conjunction with the WAC Committee, the Office of Instruction generated a spreadsheet listing 24 specific general education courses, which are required to submit writing samples to the Committee.

Each of these samples will be accompanied by a coversheet, which will provide information regarding the individual students’ intended major, their tenure at the College, and the number of credits they have attained. The intent of this change is to make the data generated by the WAC project more robust and inclusive.

The Committee also had a goal of presenting the data to the entire campus, which was achieved during Faculty Development week at the beginning of the Fall 2012 semester and has continued in Fall 2013. For two years running, the Committee has prepared and presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting its findings.

Recommendations have included the following:

- Provide writing rubrics to all students
- Encourage use of the Writing Center and expand embedded tutoring program
- Encourage use of computers/technology for writing assignments.

Outcomes and Resources

Additionally, there was college-wide participation in Assessment Week activities in November 2012 and another is planned in November 2013.

Other outcomes include:

- Development of an Assessment Mentoring Program where members of the Assessment Committee serve as liaisons for campus departments.
- Held an Assessment Colloquium where departments discussed their departmental and program assessment endeavors
- Developed Assessment Committee by-laws
- Developed an Assessment Webpage to inform the KKCC community of meetings, updates, and projects
- Conducted annual assessment week activities that included quizzes, classroom "moment of assessment", and assessment posters
- Conducted assessment of general education outcomes for oral and written communication and human diversity