

# The Assessment Times



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

MAY, 2006

## From the Chair

Jen Asimow

Dear All,

The end of the year is upon us and as I write this, I am looking forward to, as I know you are, a relaxing and reinvigorating summer.

This is the last Assessment Times I will write, as I have stepped down as Chair of the Assessment Committee. I am pleased to report that the committee elected Carrie Nepstad as the new Chair of the committee and Anita Kelley as the Vice-Chair. I am sure that they will do an extraordinary job especially with all of your continued support.

At this time I would like to review the work the Assessment Committee has done since May, 2004.

We have conducted 4 institution-wide Assess-

ments; the Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy (SAILS), Human Diversity Culture Survey, the Community College Survey of Student Satisfaction and the California Critical thinking Skills Test.

We have defined and written student learning outcomes for 4 of the 7 HWC general education objectives. The committee has hosted 4 campus-wide professional development workshops and I along with VP Lopez, Sammie Dortch and Carrie Nepstad have spoken at 4 conferences about HWC's assessment activities.

These are just a few of the activities that we have completed in the past two years. As you



all know, this work is central to the mission of the college and to student success. All assessment at HWC has been a collaborative effort of many faculty, administrators, students, and professional and clerical staff. The people listed to the right of this column have been wonderful to work with. They have been eternally optimistic and extremely supportive of my efforts. I would like to extend a special thanks to Glenn Weller for serving as Vice-Chair for the past two years. He is a great guy and has been wonderful to have in my corner. Many Thanks,

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Keenan Andrews	Asst. Dean
Jen Asimow	CD
Timothy Donahue	Eng
Todd Heldt	Lib
Jesus Miranda	Math
Helene Gabelnick	Chem
Lynell Kiely	SS
Anita Kelley	Bus
Cecilia Lopez	VP
Denise Maduli-Williams	ESL
John Metoyer	Assoc Dean
Willard Moody	Eng
Carrie Nepstad	CD
Dana Perry	Chem
Dave Richardson	Hum
Farrokh Asadi	CIS
Les White	SS
Armen Sarrafian	Art
Anthony Ealey	MH

## Committee Meeting Highlights

- The committee approved learning outcomes and objectives for human diversity.
- The committee elected with acclamation Carrie Nepstad as Chair of the committee and Anita Kelley as Vice-Chair.
- The committee approved an Institutional Assessment calendar which outlines assessment activities up until Fall, 2010. The calendar also includes ongoing, weekly, monthly and annual assessment activities.
- The committee has been developing a conceptual framework for its work.

## Assessment Committee Chairs

Jennifer G. Asimow, Chair  
Glenn Weller, Co-Chair

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## WHY STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES?

"Student learning outcomes," encompass a wide range of student attributes and abilities, both cognitive and affective, which are a measure of how their college experiences have supported their development as individuals. Cognitive outcomes include demonstrable acquisition of specific knowledge and skills, as in a major; what do students know that they didn't know before, and what can they do that they couldn't do before? Affective outcomes are also of considerable interest; how has their college experience impacted students' values, goals, attitudes, self-concepts, world views, and behaviors? How has it developed their many potentials? How has it enhanced their value to themselves, their families, and their communities?

There are essentially three threads which must be interwoven into a program dedicated to the improvement of student learning: shifting curricular focus to student learning; developing faculty as effective teachers; and the integration of assessment into curriculum at several levels. These are discussed in some detail in the next several sections."

Frye, Richard. "Assessment, Accountability and Student Learning Outcomes". Western Washington University. [www.ac.wvu.edu](http://www.ac.wvu.edu).

## Dates To Remember

- Professional Development Week  
August 14—August 18, 2006
- Open Registration  
August 21—August 26, 2006
- First Day of Class  
August 28, 2006

### CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES

- <http://pareonline.net/>
- <http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~dialogue/issue2.html#student>

### DID YOU KNOW?

46% of HWC students spend between 1-5 hours per week preparing for class (reading, writing, rehearsing, doing homework or other activities related to their programs).