

MINUTES

Quality Enhancement Planning
Action Plan Subcommittee
March 6, 2013 from 3:00 – 4:30
March 12, 2013 from 2:30 – 4:00

The first two meetings focused on creating program goals and student learning outcomes for the QEP. Before any discussion of action items was possible, the committee needed to ensure there was a strong conceptual foundation in place.

The committee drew inspiration from four sources:

1. The working definitions of “culture” and “cultural competence” found in the recently drafted literature review written by Drs. Speakes and Drury.
 - a. Culture – “‘learned and shared behavior of a community of interacting human beings.’ This definition postulates no racial, national, or ethnic boundaries, and specifies no minimum or maximum numbers. Wherever a group of people are set apart by their different ‘learned and shared behavior,’ a cultural difference exists.” (Howell, W. S. (1982). *The empathic communicator.*)
 - b. Cultural competence – comprised of cultural awareness and beliefs, cultural knowledge, and cultural skills. Can also be described as a range of “knowledge, behaviors, and dispositions necessary to culturally interact with other cultural groups.”
2. The *Intercultural Knowledge and Competence VALUE Rubric* created by AACU
3. The recent Student Learning Outcomes Training workshop given by Dr. Thomas Clearly on March 1, 2013
4. *Bloom’s Taxonomy of Measurable Verbs*

After much debate and study, the committee agreed upon the following statements:

Program Goals

1. Provide opportunities for students to explore their own cultural communities
2. Provide opportunities to experience, understand, and appreciate other cultures
3. Provide opportunities for students to enhance their cross-cultural communication and interaction skills

Student Learning Outcomes

Student will be able to

1. Describe various aspects of cultural diversity (*Knowledge*)
2. Articulate a shared understanding and support of cross-cultural experiences (*Skill*)
3. Evaluate cultural perspectives with openness and respect (*Attitude*)

To achieve the SLOs and program goals AND frame the action plan, the committee also created four strategies (*note: these strategies would later be modified at the meeting on March 27*):

Strategies

1. Enhance the offerings of culturally rich events on campus
2. Increase the level of cultural analysis in selected upper-level courses of all majors
3. Increase the level of cultural analysis required in selected general education courses
4. Increase the level of cultural analysis in the first year experience