

## **Administrative Response to Program Review Psychology Program May 2018**

On May 4, 2018, the Psychology SAC presented their Program Review findings to an audience of PCC administrators and others with an interest in the discipline. The presentation was informative and thought provoking. It provided an opportunity for engagement with those in attendance through an informative and interactive dialogue.

This Administrative Response will: A) note particular highlights of the Psychology Program and Program Review; B) provide observations and recommendations; and C) provide the administrative response to the SAC recommendations.

### **Noteworthy Efforts or Achievements**

- Kudos for an excellent program review presentation. The presentation was engaging and demonstrated the commitment of the faculty to student success and opportunity. It was well planned and balanced. The report was thoughtful and complete. Thank you!
- Alignment of PCC Psychology program with the American Psychological Association's (APA) Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major.
- Synchronization of course outcomes with APA.
- Curriculum updates to improve student attainment of course outcomes.
- The program review document contained excellent analysis of the questions being asked and the answers provided by the SAC.
- Advocacy with publishers to make their materials more accessible for DL classes.
- Best practices being used for learning and retention with students taking online classes including emailing students prior to the beginning of the term, emailing students at risk for non-payment drop prior to the beginning of the term, review effective study strategies, respond to students within 24-hours, etc.
- Regular participation in professional development activities that have resulted in instructional changes.
- Assessment conducted with thought, focus, care for process and interpretation, and focused, care with process and results and how to move forward.
- Appraisal (via survey) of teaching innovations, and changes in 5 years.
- Updated the Psychology website. This included the development of film clips to help students learn more about psychology either prior to enrollment or while taking Psychology courses. Additional information was added linking students to the American Psychological Association.
- Collaboration with Portland State University (PSU) to provide contacts for PCC students who are interested in speaking with specific PSU advisers to help promote seamless transfer.

## Observations and Recommendations

We encourage you to

- develop SAC-specific questions to add to Course Evaluations.
- continue exploring Open Educational Resources (OER) in order to meet student needs in both online and campus-based courses.
- continue to explore solutions to the SAC's concern about online students taking exams and using outside resources while taking the exams that violate PCC's Academic Integrity policy.

## Administrative Response to Psychology Recommendations

What is the SAC planning to do to improve teaching and learning, student success, and degree or certificate completion, for on-campus and online students as appropriate?

**The Psychology SAC has put forth good effort toward the goal of further increasing its effectiveness in assessment of Course Outcomes and PCC Core Outcomes. The SAC is participating in the process, and aspires to increase its level of coordination, collaboration, and results-driven changes. Currently, the Psychology SAC is in the Reassessment phase of our Critical Thinking assessment project, i.e., assessing and improving student understanding of correlations (and what they do and do not imply). This project began in 2016-17, and further analysis is being conducted in the 2017-18 academic year. Depending on the results of the current assessment project, a standardized teaching module will be explored. Progress on this module began during a "Teach-in" workshop during the April 2017 SAC in-service meeting. We applaud the SAC's work in the Reassessment phase of Critical Thinking assessment. We look forward to hearing more about the results of your analysis and your potential standardized teaching module.**

What support do you need from administration in order to carry out your planned improvements?

**1. Ensure equity of education at both SE and Rock Creek campuses by attending to FTE/Faculty ratio discrepancies. To this end the SAC suggests that the FT faculty position (not filled after the passing of Kitty Stromholt) be reinstated and that the FT faculty position at SE (currently occupied by a temporary hire) be maintained. Based after FTE loads at each campus, current data suggests the position not filled after Kitty's passing should be allocated to the Rock Creek Campus. The FT faculty position at SE has been approved to move forward in block hire in fall 2018 with the permanent faculty in place for the 2019-2020 academic year. The Rock Creek campus has a request for another full-time Psychology faculty on its unfunded personnel list. As of this time, funding has not been secured for this position.**

**2. Compensation for any PT faculty who engages in the creation of SAC-wide assessment materials (i.e., assignments or rubrics) or participates in evaluations of artifacts using approved rubrics. PT faculty are currently eligible to be compensated for assessment**

*work (Learning Assessment Council) with a cap of 10-hours annually per SAC. We recommend you check in with your SAC Liaison prior to the start of any additional work being performed by PT faculty where compensation is being requested.*

**3. Professional development considerations: More opportunities, consistent policies across campuses, support for pursuit of higher degree.** *The Professional and Organizational Development Office (POD) is currently updating the amount of funding, how many people can attend a conference, and looking into providing more opportunities at the local level. As an example, funding for conferences has now been raised to \$600. There is an intent by POD to standardize and streamline some of their opportunities. In addition, HR does provide partial tuition reimbursement for advanced degrees. Please check in with both POD and HR for additional information.*

**4. Portable classroom technology carts with computers that allow for multimodal teaching opportunities for faculty and to enhance data collection for assessment.** *Both SE and CA have Chromebook carts that can be used in classrooms. For RC and SY, consider working with your division dean and DOI to explore options with IT.*

## **Closing**

In closing, we want to again thank the Psychology Faculty and staff for sharing the results of your program review with us. We enjoyed learning more about the discipline, your successes and plans for the future. We look forward to supporting your on-going work on continuous program improvement.

Administrative Response submitted by Cheryl L. Scott, on behalf of the Deans of Instruction and Dean of Academic Affairs.

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