Committee for Assessing Student Learning (CASL) - Minutes

Meeting Held Friday, November 17, 2023, from 12:30 – 1:18pm – via Webex

-Approved 12/1/2023-

Team Members:

Present:

> Amanda Estacio, Brenda Brown, Dana Cogswell, Timothy Deines, Melinda Hernandez, Karen Hicks, Heidi Jordan, Mark Kelland, Mark Khol, Zack Macomber, Rob McLoone, Homa Ghaussi Mujtaba, Chuck Page, and Kara Wiedman.

Absent:

> Rafeeq McGiveron, Tracy Nothnagel, and Danielle Savory.

Guest:

> Cheryl Garayta.

Action Items:

- CASL determined they will meet as planned on December 1, 2023 (Senate had canceled their meeting planned for that day) and devote the majority of it to identifying cocurricular programs.
  - Karen will pull together some items and create a step-by-step process to help group with decision making during this meeting
  - Other agenda items welcome, this should not take the whole time
- Recommended members review the article Mel shared during the meeting as they are able.
  - Located in CASL SharePoint site, "Sifting Through Gen Z Stereotypes: Using Critical Empathy to Assess Writers' Invisible Learning."
- CASL members are asked to send Tim and Heidi any examples of performance based and authentic assessment that could be shared in their upcoming PA Day presentation.

Approval of 11/17/23 Agenda

- Call for approval of agenda.
- Hearing no objections, the agenda stands approved.

Approval of 11/03/23 Minutes

- Call for correction/approval of minutes.
- Hearing no objections, the minutes stand approved.

Work on articulating cocurricular and extracurricular activities at LCC – Mark Kelland

- Will need to identify cocurricular activities and have an assessment method for them.
- Have heard LCC's submitted HLC quality initiative report was just recently sent out by HLC for review.
  - Hope to hear from them soon, Mark will keep us updated
  - Once received may need to revisit current cocurricular work as directed in review
    - Even if worse was to happen and the review shows LCC current cocurricular system as questionable, actions taken now will show work is being done to address the situation
- Heidi, as Chairperson Elect will take the lead on this project.

- o Mark and Karen will update her on past work
- o Goal is threefold:
    1. ID cocurricular programs that have a learning assessment in place and initiate that assessment.
    2. Help currently identified cocurricular programs without an assessment plan in place create one, and initiate that assessment.
    3. ID other groups that should be considered cocurricular and work with them to create an assessment plan, and initiate that assessment.
  - o Note: Attendance sheets do not count as assessments, must be on student learning
- CASL can work with programs on creating an assessment plan, but identified cocurricular programs can also work individually with Karen, LCC's Director of Assessment.
- Original subcommittee established pre-Covid, can start there if desired.
    - o Information on our CASL SharePoint Site: Cocurricular HLC Quality Initiative folder.
    - o They did create a report and plan
- Although Senate has canceled their next meeting, CASL determined they will still meet as planned and devote the majority of it to identifying cocurricular programs.
    - o Karen will pull together some items and create a step-by-step process to help group with decision making during this meeting
    - o Other agenda items welcome, this should not take the whole time

Discuss Using Critical Empathy to Assess Writers' Invisible Learning: Student/Self Annotation – Mel
- Item previously laid on table but picked up in Agenda.
- Melinda (Mel) had shared this article in an email prior to the meeting.
    - o It can also be found on the CASL SharePoint in the Resources Folder
- Melinda shared portions of a presentation she made to her class about this article with the group.
    - o She also shared her intention of doing a trial by using the methods discussed when grading her student's final paper this semester.
        - ▪ After seeing results will determine if continue in spring
- Main focus is to remind faculty that social factors have shaped their students, and to grade them using the same methods used to grade previous generations is problematic.
    - o Faculty should be wary of assessing students using the same social narrative that shaped them
    - o Goal of outlined method is to give students hope and agency, reduce their anxiety from perfection and time, while creating an opportunity for dialogue.
        - ▪ Uses annotation as a way faculty explains how paper is graded and student can respond before final grade is recorded so that their intentions are known (invisible learning)
    - o This is an example of "authentic assessment."
- CASL members thanked her for sharing her article and ideas for practicing them in her classroom.
    - o All CASL members are encouraged to share items of interest to them as they relate to assessment – they are welcome agenda items

CASL Website Team Update – Tim
- Thank you to one person for giving suggestions on the process guide sent out between meetings.
    - o Still determining how content of this guide would be displayed on the website
- Took poll during Senate today to get feedback on where folks are most likely to go to find out about assessment.

- - Hoping to get more feedback on that

CASL Charter wording status update – Tim
- Have not heard from Academic Senate VP.
  - Will give update to group when have something

Chat GPT/General AI – standing discussion topic
- Cross campus group met today.
  - Next meeting will be in spring semester
    - Group plans to meet monthly starting then
    - Still open for more people if desire to join
  - Discussed developing a website around the subject
    - CASL could help with any assessment issues
  - Shared interesting link from U of M: https://genai.umich.edu/
- Homa update on Calculus assignment for group.
  - Assignment deadline in December. No updates at this time.
- Mel shared the following YouTube video link people may be interested in watching: "What's Inside a Generative Artificial-Intelligence Model? And Why Should We Care? | Fernanda Viégas."
  - Was interesting to hear AI being called a sycophant
- Discussed that, as relates to assessment this is a worthwhile standing item for the agenda.
  - Will change name to emphasize that, in future will be referenced as "AI and Assessment."

Future agenda items
- None.

Other
- Tim and Heidi will be giving a PA Day presentation on performance based and authentic assessment.
  - Any examples of that CASL members have used and they could share are requested
    - As long as sharing permission is allowed, they don't have to be your own ideas!
  - Tim also wanted to thank Mark and Kara for their work on performance based and authentic assessment
    - Tim and Heidi are finding it a great resource when developing this presentation.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:20pm with no objections
- Next Meeting Friday, December 1, 2023 from 12:30pm to 2:00pm, via Webex.
  - Last meeting of fall semester

Respectfully submitted by Terri Christian