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Student Learning Outcomes Newsletter

Fall 2013, No.1

Student Learning Outcomes Sub-Committee

You are Invited to BRING YOUR DATA DAY!

Are you ready to indulge in winter break?

Do you want to knock out those **SLO**s assessments

in

TracDat so you can head out for some relaxation?

We have just the solution for you! Come to "Bring Your Data Day". We will be there to assist you in entering the data.

WHEN:

Friday, Dec. 6, 9:30-12:30, & Monday, Dec. 16, 1:30-4:30 WHERE:

MCE-340

WHAT TO BRING:

SLO Assessment Forms, your Rubrics and a flash drive.

BYOA! Bring your own assistant or use one of ours. We will have helpers there who can type the data into TracDat under your personal direction.



Can't Make it to Bring Your Data Day?

No Problem. We are available other times by appointment or phone. Contact Andrea Horigan, Debbie Newcomb, or Sandy Hajas. We are here to help you.

Refreshments will be served! We will see that your time is filled with

nourishment to get you through the process.

Do not delay, plan ahead, SAVE THE DATES, and come to

BRING YOUR DATA DAY!

End the day completely done with your SLOs and free your mind of this stress before the semester break.

This event is brought to you by your SLO facilitators, SLO Support staff, and friendly volunteers to help provide any assistance you might need.



TracDat

Resource Contacts

Sandy Hajas, Ext. 6179 Andrea Horigan, Ext. 6196, Rachel Marchioni, Ext. 6404 Debbie Newcomb, Ext. 6268

Please feel free to call us anytime for assistance. We will assist with questions, train you to use the software, or just help you input your assessments. Do not hesitate to ask for help.



Accomplishments 2013

- 98% of the programsdepartments-services have updated SLOs in TracDat
- 96% of the programs have completed their PSLO
- 90% of programs or departments have completed a five year rotational plan
- 94% of the programs or departments have met with an SLO facilitator
- 75% of the services have completed a five year rotational plan



Dear Dr. SLOan

DEAR DR. SLOan:

I am ready to burst. My department has performed our SLO assessments in both a summative and a formative manner over the past several semesters. We have also had several discussions about both and are confused and a bit lost as to which one we are supposed to do. This process has been quite stressful. Is a summative or formative best for SLO assessment?--A LOST & CONFUSED **PROFESSOR**

DEAR LOST & CONFUSED:

Take a deep breath; it's going to be okay. Both summative and formative are great ways to assess students' progress in regards to SLO achievement. If you assess in a summative manner, then you will be able to see a full picture of your students' progress in the sense that they will have had the entire semester to reach their SLO goals. On the other hand, if you assess in a formative mannersay around the midpoint of the semester-then you will see how your students are doing at a particular point in the semester (rather than at the end), which will possibly help to give you insight into where you need to go and revisions you can make to your curriculum that will benefit

them immediately. Either way, it is up to you and your department how to proceed with choosing a summative or a formative assessment. Discuss it and decide which works best for your department and students.



DEAR DR. SLOan:

My department has been wondering whether or not we should be counting absent students (or students who do not take the assessment) in the actual fail category of our SLO assessment data. It seems like it would drastically affect the data to include students as failing an assessment that they never took.

Are we the only ones who don't know what we're doing here? We are hoping others have had this discussion and/or are unsure of how to proceed in the matter. Is there a rule as to whether these students should be counted?--A DATA DISTURBED DEPART-MENT

DEAR DISTURBED:

I'm not your mother so I will refrain from lecturing you on the importance of believing in yourself. You are lacking confidence when in fact you are doing a wonderful job in asking the question in the first place. No, you are not the only department that has been confused about this particular issue. It is an important conversation that should happen on the SLO Committee. For now, though, you should decide as a department whether or not you will be counting those students so that your data is consistent and accurate.

> Email your questions to Dr. Sloan via: jwalker@vcccd.edu