York College/CUNY
Quantitative Reasoning and Math Skills Assessment Committee Meeting
Minutes
03/05/2008, 2-3pm at Math Department Conference Room

Present: Lou D’Alotto, Jane Keleher, Farley Mawyer, Aghajan Mohammadi, Vadim Moldovan, Lawrence Preiser, Karin A Wolf, Tsu-Chih Wu, Shao-Wei Wu

Dr. Mohammadi gave a brief description of the Title III grant and how assessment of Quantitative Reasoning & Math skills is relevant to the grant. He mentioned that the assessment component of Title III grant is one and a half year behind. The priority is to assess Quantitative Reasoning & Math across the curriculum that is consistent with CUNY priority, Integrating Mathematics Across the Curriculum (IMAC). Each member got a copy of Linda Suskie’s “Assessing Student Learning” book for reference. Professor Mawyer recommended the purchase of “Assessment of Student Learning in College Mathematics: Towards Improved Programs and Courses.”

The meeting continued to discuss the current admission requirements. Currently the requirements at York are Math 1 >= 30 and Math 2>=30, which was raised in Fall 2007 from 27 for both. Due to an overall increase of CUNY requirements, Math 1 requirement will be raised to 35 in Fall 2008 while Math 2 requirement stays the same.

Dr. Mohammadi proposed the following questions as guiding principles:

- Do all syllabi have articulated expectations of student learning outcomes that are consistent with the mission and goals of General Education program?
- Do all syllabi have articulated expectations of student learning outcomes that are consistent with the goals of the disciplines and majors?
- Do all syllabi contain necessary elements?
- Is there demonstrable evidence of student learning?
- How do we make sure students are ready to advance to their majors?

Professor Moldovan suggested modification of the above questions. Fenix Arias, Director of Testing Center then presented information on CPE and brought examples to the committee. Logistics of the committee operation were also discussed. The committee agreed to meet three times by the end of Spring semester for assessment planning; do most works during Summer and then finalize in the Fall semester.
Follow-up items

1. Prof. D’Alotto will come up with a plan regarding when and how to distribute the release time/stipend. If anyone has any suggestions regarding this issue, please email him at dalotto@york.cuny.edu.
2. As Professor Moldovan suggested, we will continue the discussion of assessment planning in the next meeting.
3. The next meeting is on 3/20/2008 (Thursday), 12-1pm at 2H06, right after the Assessment Workshop and lunch will be provided. Dr. Ephraim Schechter, presenter of the Assessment Workshop will be joining the meeting. Every member will bring example syllabi from your department and Shao-Wei will fill the departments not currently represented. Shao-Wei will also bring the Gen. Ed. course review result done by the Outcomes Assessment Committee to next meeting.

Other announcement

The Borough of Manhattan Community College is hosting a free one-day conference at which institutions will share strategies to implement a mathematics-across-the-curriculum (MAC) initiative, as well as to develop a course in quantitative reasoning (QR). The conference is on Friday, March 28, 2008 from 9am – 2:30pm at Richard Harris Terrace, BMCC. More information can be found at http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/mathconference/