Professional Development – A Plethora of Opportunities

Definition of Professional Development: “the process of obtaining the skills, qualifications and experience that allow you to make progress in your career.” (Macmillan Dictionary, 2014)

Looking ahead over the next several months at JCCC, I find the opportunities for faculty development in the assessment of student learning remarkable in both breadth and depth. Leading off the new academic semester in January, the Office of Outcomes Assessment (OOA) will host a workshop that was piloted last summer. Assessment by Design – Comprehensive Overview is a daylong, hands-on workshop which provides participants with an interactive and theoretical framework for addressing the assessment needs of their courses or programs. Come to this workshop as an individual faculty member working on assessing student learning in your courses, or bring your colleagues to address assessment initiatives for your program.

During Professional Development Days, find your development opportunity in sessions such as:

- “Hits and Misses” in Launching Assessment Strategies, a faculty panel discussion
- Taming Excel to Capture Your Assessment Data
- Become a CSI (Capturing Student Info) and Interrogate Your Assessment Data Through Analysis
- Program Review and Assessment, Linkages and Expectations
- General Education – Assessments, Data Submission and Spring Deadlines
- Make the Most of Your Upcoming Regional Community College Assessment Conference Experience
- Preparing for Your World Café
- World Café

The big hitter for this spring’s lineup (yes, I’ve been watching lots of Royals baseball) is the 5th Annual Regional Community College Assessment Conference – Moving Forward with Assessment, scheduled for April 10, 2015. The power hitter for this event is Dr. Tom Angelo. Dr. Angelo is the Assistant Provost, Director of the Center for Advancement of Faculty Excellence, and Professor of Higher Education at Queens University, Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr. Angelo has consulted on assessment and teaching and learning improvement in 17 countries, in all 50 of the United States, for more than 60 higher education associations/systems, and at more than 250 postsecondary institutions. He has also served as an invited keynote/featured speaker at more than 75 higher education conferences internationally.
Reminder

Don’t forget your General Education assessment data is due to the Office of Outcomes Assessment in January!

If you have questions on providing your data, be sure and call the office for assistance.

Quote of the Month

“Every assessment is based on a set of beliefs about the kinds of tasks or situations that will prompt students to say, do, or create something that demonstrates important knowledge and skills. The tasks to which students are asked to respond on an assessment are not arbitrary. They must be carefully designed to provide evidence that is linked to the cognitive model of learning and to support the kinds of inferences and decisions that will be based on the assessment results.”


Check out this book today at the OOA resource library in GEB 262.

Professional Development, continued

Dr. Angelo graciously gave a workshop this past summer at JCCC while here as a keynoter for another conference. The theme of his presentation was “CATs and COLTs: Classroom Assessment Techniques and Collaborative Learning Techniques.” With little notice and the only promotion a simple email blast to regional colleges, we were able to fill and overflow the space with colleagues eager to engage in the workshop. Dr. Angelo drew directly from his teaching experiences to share practical strategies that could be immediately implemented in courses in all disciplines. To quote one of my colleagues at this event, “it was like a master class on teaching.” You won’t want to miss Dr. Angelo’s workshops or keynote address in April. This conference is free to JCCC faculty and staff.

If these offerings don’t meet your needs, know that the OOA is always available to conduct retreats, departmental meetings or one-on-one sessions on assessment or program review. Call the office and set up a time now.

Outcomes Assessment Mini-Grants – FAST-TRACK Option

Are you looking for assessment resources in your discipline? Need a resource on assessment for general education? The Office of Outcomes Assessment is now offering a fast-track mini-grant for up to $100 to purchase books on assessment. The fast-track mini-grant does not require a dean’s signature, and the assessment resources will be purchased and provided for your use. For more information contact the office.

Assessment by Design Workshop

January 9, 2015, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Offered for the first time this past summer, OOA will present another daylong workshop focused on assessment. The new workshop series is Assessment by Design – Comprehensive Overview.

Attendees participating in this workshop will build an assessment strategy to address their course, general education or program needs. In addition, participants will gain a theoretical framework for understanding the cycle of assessment.

The workshop is free to JCCC faculty and includes course materials, beverage and snack breaks, and lunch. This daylong workshop also counts toward a faculty development day. The session is appropriate for individual faculty or small groups of faculty from a department. Registration is limited, so register now with CRN 34141. Call OOA if you have any questions.