

"Minute Paper" Responses

Assessment Workshop by Linda Suskie at Palo Alto College

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What was the one most useful or meaningful thing you learned this morning?

What assessment is (9 comments)

- The need for taking time to focus on the "assessment" aspect of our roles as educators
- That I have more options
- Assessment does not curtail faculty creativity.
- Affirmation of what we are doing
- There are many different methods of assessment – some we may not initially realize until we look at what we do in a new way or in a broader scope.
- What assessment can be
- Assessment process
- Different ways to look at assessment
- Be flexible

Learning goals (4 comments)

- Listing of learning goal in the syllabus
- The breakout session was most useful.
- The specific examples of effective goals
- How to review course objectives/goals and make them more accessible
- Our individual meetings

Student learning (3 comments)

- Focus needs to be placed on *student learning*: what do they take away for life?
- The idea of what students "need" to know. Are we meeting those "needs"? Does anyone know what they "need" to know?
- Mitosis is important and something *higher educated* people don't learn/didn't learn well!!

Assessment as part of teaching (2 comments)

- Changing teaching should be motivated by assessment.
- Use of assessments as a tool

Aligning goals, teaching, and assessment (2 comments)

- Begin rethinking objectives and how they can be assessed.
- Matching goals and assessments

Accreditation & accountability (2 comments)

- Accreditation information
- This must be done to satisfy state requirement.

What question remains uppermost in your mind as we end this session?

Next steps in assessment (12 comments)

- How will I *assess* this stuff?
- What exactly are the expectations of assessment and how will be held accountable?
- Mapping goals to overlapping curriculum
- How will I get all this done?

- So many *levels* of assessment...also, some courses have multiple purposes (general *and* specific degree) – how do you create good goals?
- How to assess some of our goals?
- How do we implement the needed changes in our approach?
- How to improve my current assessment
- How to put it into our course
- When can “we” get together on this effort again?
- How will the monitoring be done (down to instructor’s syllabi?)
- Comparing objectives and assessments in face to face classes as opposed to online

Improving student learning (3 comments)

- How do students learn best? What factors cause learning roadblocks?
- Employer needs
- How & where do students achieve?

Other (3 comments)

- Is this being done to help the student learn, or to placate the government?
- Why was so much spent on this speaker!
- Directions for our breakout sessions were vague.

Compiled by Linda Suskie