UC Division Chairs Discipline Assessment Summary, Analysis, and Recommendations

25 September 2023

I. Introduction

Discipline Coordinators compiled Discipline Assessment Reports for the 2022-23 academic year. Using these reports, the Division Chairs met on 25 September 2023 to analyze the data, make recommendations, and summarize the findings in this report.

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| Division  | Division Chair  | Academic Programs |
| Humanities  | Frank Klose | History, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies  |
| Natural Science | Katerina Skokotas  | Biology, Chemistry, Education  |
| Social Science  | Dennis Perkinson | Business, Math, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology |
| Visual Arts and Letters | Roseann Carey | New Media Communication, English, Theater, Writing and Reading, Studio Art and Design |

II. Analysis and Discussion

* Need to improve the quality of data to help inform decision-making and consider the effectiveness of the current template and process.
* Disciplines should consider developing specific targets and benchmarks to help compare outcomes and use the evidence to develop plans and actions.
* Important to indicate what happened with prior plans and tracking this evidence – when disciplines included this information, it was very important and useful.
* Planned improvements – need space and time to reflect on how to measure improvement.
* How to include post-graduate success of students as part of discipline assessment.
* Overabundance and duplication of information – need to focus on the most important things for assessment and not everything.
* Persistent concerns about low-enrolled majors and how to conduct effective assessment.

III. Recommendations

1. Rethink current structure of Divisions for discipline alignment, the selection process for Division Chairs, and the roles and responsibilities of Division Chairs.
2. Spring Faculty retreat that includes deeper discussions about assessment.
3. Request budget compensation for discipline coordinators for their additional assessment responsibilities.
4. Require discipline coordinators to attend college-wide workshops on assessment data offered by the Office of Educational and Institutional Effectiveness to improve data operationalization, collection, and analysis.
5. Improve professional development for discipline coordinators on assessment and using evidence to inform decisions about teaching and learning.
6. Convene a workgroup for reviewing and revising the annual program assessment report.
7. Have faculty propose ways to create time and space for assessment and implementation of recommendations.