Jefferson Davis Community College
General Education Program and Student Learning Outcomes Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2006, 1:00 p.m., CTT

Present: Deborah Albritton, Carol Bates, Sue Laing, Linda Miller, Beulah Patton, and Otis Thames.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 13, 1 p.m. CTT

Carol emphasized the good work of the committee in analyzing and revising the program student learning outcomes. She told them how much the Outcomes Assessment Taskforce appreciated their excellent work.

The committee once again revisited the General Education: Academic Transfer and General Education: Technical Student Learning Outcomes. Carol explained that the student learning outcomes would be published in the new edition of the catalog. There was some discussion about the first two goals because the term “college-level” seemed too vague. The committee revised the first two goals as follows.

1. Graduates will demonstrate effective composition skills.
2. Graduates will demonstrate effective communication skills.

Also, on goal 4, the statement “and other technical skills” was removed.

The committee discussed the possibility of measuring student learning across the curriculum. The discussion centered on how students who do well in English classes do not always transfer what they have learned to their other classes. Computer skills were also used as an example. Formatting a research paper is taught in microcomputer applications, but when students take English composition, they do not always know how to format a research paper. The committee decided that the logistics of grading papers across the curriculum was unreasonable. To raise the students’ awareness of how their classes interrelate, faculty members will emphasize the importance of using the skills learned in all of their classes.

The committee discussed means of encouraging faculty’s awareness of student learning outcomes. It was decided that the general education outcomes would be emailed to all faculty. Division Chairs would also stress the importance of student learning outcomes in their divisional meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Bates