

Final Report

IUPUI Program Review and Assessment Committee Grant

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Charlie Feldhaus, Ed.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Organizational Leadership and Supervision (OLS)

Purdue School of Engineering and Technology

Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

This report will delineate progress made on the PRAC grant awarded to Charlie Feldhaus in April of 2004. The purpose of the project and the intended grant outcomes are as follows:

Purpose of the Project:

To date, OLS adjunct faculty (there are currently 22 teaching a variety of courses) have not been asked or expected to gather data and/or report results showing student improvement in their courses. The purpose of this project is two-fold:

1. to instill in all OLS adjunct faculty a sense of the importance of using the IUPUI Principles of Undergraduate Learning as their “course standards” for learning, and,
2. to gather previously unrecorded data on how OLS adjunct faculty are attempting to improve and assess student learning and use those results to submit to the School of Engineering and Technology and the University assessment process

Intended Outcomes of the Project:

This assessment project will focus on four major outcomes:

1. All OLS course instructors, especially adjunct faculty, will create syllabi with course outcomes based on the IUPUI Principles of Undergraduate Learning;
2. All OLS course instructors, especially adjunct faculty, will use a systematic, authentic assessment approach in an effort to gather data about student learning;
3. All OLS course instructors, especially adjunct faculty, will collect this data, provide it to an OLS faculty representative in charge of assessment, and that data will be analyzed in an effort to better understand achievement gaps within all OLS courses offered;

4. Improvement strategies for the facilitation of student learning will be developed and incorporated into the delivery of all OLS courses as a result of the assessment data gathered from all OLS instructors, especially adjunct faculty.

Progress Make on PRAC Grant Outcomes:

The OLS department had a first ever Associate Faculty Workshop on February 27, 2004. The workshop was so successful, that the department decided to apply for a PRAC grant to continue these meetings and make assessment a central theme. The PRAC grant was awarded in April of 2004, and since that time OLS faculty completed the following:

1. Three additional OLS Associate Faculty meetings were developed that centered on assessment, teaching/learning strategies, and curriculum development/course alignment. (minutes of these meetings are attached as files to this report)
2. An OLS Associate Faculty Assessment Checklist and Reporting System was developed by OLS faculty and disseminated to all OLS faculty. (an electronic version of this form is attached as a file to this report)
3. An OLS Associate Faculty website has been developed and is available to all OLS associate faculty. (see: <http://www.iupui.edu/~ols02/>)
4. An OLS faculty representative has been added to the School of Engineering and Technology Assessment Committee and OLS now contributes semester assessment reports to this committee. (see: <http://mypage.iu.edu/~mmaglala/cit490/assessment.htm>)

Needless to say the contributions to the OLS department made possible by the PRAC grant are significant. Over 45 OLS Associate Faculty attended our three workshops during the Fall Semester of 2004 and Spring semester of 2005. The OLS department is now producing huge amounts of data based on the OLS Associate Faculty Assessment Checklist and Reporting System and contributing that data and those reports to the School of ET Assessment Committee. Most importantly, both OLS Faculty and Associate Faculty have developed a better understanding of the importance of authentic assessment in the teaching/learning process. Our OLS students will most certainly benefit from this understanding.