

**Learning Evidence Team
Committee Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2004
Downtown Center**

Present: Andrew Alexander, Jim Belcher, Nick Bekas, Kira Bishop, Philip Bishop, Judi Delisle, Aida Diaz, Jackie DiMartino, Tracy Edwards, Tim Grogan, Emily Hooker, Will Johnson, Maryke Lee, Melissa Pedone, Louise Pitts, Ann Puyana, George Rausch, Shawn Robinson, David Rogers, Allison Sloan, Roberta Vandermast

Absent: Linda Anthon, Pat Nellis, Ron Nelson

Tracy Edwards welcomed the Learning Evidence Team to their first meeting and began with a Power Point presentation. She explained that the committee is made up of faculty volunteers who were solicited from the Faculty Association Boards on all campuses, volunteer deans, and members of her own staff. One third of the membership will serve a one-year term, another third will serve a two-year membership and the remaining third will serve a three-year membership. This rotation will not only provide continuity to the group, but also diverse viewpoints. The decision making of the team will be rooted in two questions: How does this enhance learning? and How do we know? The work of the group will encompass Strategic Plan Goal #4: Creating a culture in which clearly specified learning outcomes and assessments engage students as responsible partners in their learning” and “Valencia’s learning leaders can effectively create the best conditions for learning.”

The charge of the Learning Evidence Team will be to provide leadership for the collegewide initiative to accomplish Goal #4 and foster a “culture of evidence” that improves learning at Valencia by answering: What do we mean by evidence of student learning? and How will we document this evidence? The team will create a program of learning centered around Valencia’s core competencies: Think, Value, Communicate and Act. The team will report to the Chief Learning Officer and the College Learning Council.

The LET will need to review and study literature on outcome assessment and develop common language to talk about teaching and learning to others at the college to involve them in working with the team on program level and course level outcomes. These goals will require the team to be committed to the assignment, to be willing to ask difficult questions central to the assessment of learning, to respect opinions and ideas of others, to be courageous enough to express what they think and feel, and be creative enough to “think outside the box.”

After completing the presentation, Tracy then turned the meeting over to Co-Chairs: Emily Hooker and Roberta Vandermast. To help plan for more productive work sessions, Emily passed out index cards and asked everyone to write down three principles and procedures that they would like to see incorporated at the meetings. The committee members shared their suggestions with the group while Emily made a list of the suggestions.

To capture team member ideas about what constitutes “evidence of learning,” and what challenges the team must overcome to do its work, Emily asked everyone to complete the Taking

Stock form she distributed to the group. Roberta made a list of their ideas. The group discussed the suggestions.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9th from 2:30-4:30 pm at West Campus, 6-202.