May 26, 2010

To: Mark Aldenderfer, Dean, SSHA
Mark Matsumoto, Interim Dean, SOE
Maria Pallavicini, Dean, SNS
Christopher Viney, VPUE and Dean, College One

CC: Keith Alley, EVC and Provost
Sam Traina, VCR and Graduate Dean

From: Evan Heit and Maria Pallavicini, Co-Chairs,
Senate-Administration Council on Assessment

We write with what will become an annual request to update names of Faculty Assessment Organizers (FAOs) for majors, minors, programs, and graduate groups. Having a current list of FAOs is important for WASC accreditation and more generally for having a sustainable assessment process, helping the campus to ensure that needed work is getting done. Essentially, we need every position to be filled with an active faculty member.

Ultimately, we expect that some FAOs will rotate out of the job and be replaced. In addition, some graduate group chairs have changed. In the short term we are asking you to make corrections and *fill in the blanks on the appended list*. Please have a look at the majors, minors, programs, and graduate groups falling under your purview and send an updated list, consulting faculty as needed.

We have also noted cases where SACA has not received some assessment-related information (e.g., program learning outcomes or assessment plans) and ask that you provide updated information when possible. The most efficient way for FAOs to determine what is missing and how to provide it would be to contact Laura Martin, assessment coordinator, directly.

Please respond with updates on the appended list by June 25, 2010, to Susan Sims, ssims3@ucmerced.edu .

Faculty Assessment Organizer (FAO) Summary

May 24, 2010

Background:

In Fall 2008, each undergraduate major and stand alone minor as well as the single approved graduate program (ES) was asked to identify a "Faculty Accreditation Organizer" (FAO[1]) to

- Lead development of program learning outcomes (PLOs) and associated assessment plan (due in January 2009[2]), and
- Begin implementing this plan in spring 2009 with the assessment results report ("PLO Report") due in January 2010.

Development and implementation of assessment plans for graduate groups under the umbrella IIGP was deferred with UC Merced noting in its Capacity and Preparatory Review Report that graduate groups would develop assessment plans as part of the their preparations for CCGA and WASC Substantive Change reviews for new graduate programs. However, GRC policy stipulates that to be approved syllabi of newly proposed courses must reference the program's Program Learning Outcomes (as of fall 2009). The outgoing 2008-2009 GRC Chair notified programs of this need.

Each section below summarizes SACA's current knowledge of FAO assignments and program submission of key reports related to annual assessment.

[1] The title Faculty Accreditation Organizers has become Faculty Assessment Organizer.

[2] For purposes related to our Educational Effectiveness Review Report only, FAOs were also asked to submit a revised assessment plan in April 2010.

I. School of Engineering

Two undergraduate majors, Bioengineering and Materials Science and Engineering have not yet submitted the Program Learning Outcome Assessment Report due January 30, 2010. It is unknown if the BEST graduate group has established PLOs.

Table 1: SoE Undergraduate and Graduate Programs. When not otherwise known, it is assumed that the Graduate Group Chair is the FAO.

	Program	FAO (2008-present)	PLOs Developed	Submitted Assessment Plan in 2009	Submitted 2009 PLO Report[3]
Under-graduate Majors	Bioengineering, BS	Ariel Escobar	Y	Y	No
	Computer Science & Engineering, BS	Ming-Hsuan Yang	Y	Y	Y
	Environmental Engineering, BS	Tom Harmon	Y	Y	Y
	Materials Science & Engineering, BS	Christopher Viney	Y	Y	No
	Mechanical Engineering, BS	Carlos Coimbra	Y	Y	Y
Graduate Programs and Groups	Biological Engineering and Small Scale Technologies	Kara McCloskey	?	N/A	N/A
	Electrical Engineering & Computer Science	Alberto Cerpa?	Y	N/A	N/A
	Environmental Engineering	Tom Harmon	Y	Y	Y
	Mechanical Engineering & Applied Mechanics	Carlos Coimbra	Y	N/A	N/A

[3] Due January 30, 2010, this report documents the results of the program's first program learning outcome (PLO) assessment.

II. School of Natural Sciences

All undergraduate majors and minors have submitted assessment plans and 2009 PLO Reports, excepting the newly formed Environmental Science and Sustainability Minor which has PLOs but will need to develop and implement an assessment plan.

Table 2: SNS Undergraduate Majors, Minors and Graduate Groups. When not otherwise known, it is assumed that the Graduate Group Chair is the FAO.

	Program	FAO (2008-present)	PLOs Developed	Submitted Assessment Plan in 2009	Submitted 2009 PLO Report
Under-graduate Majors	Applied Mathematics, BS & Minor	Arnold Kim	Y	Y	Y
	Biological Sciences, BS	Patti LiWang	Y	Y	Y
	Chemical Sciences, BS & Minor	Anne Kelley	Y	Y	Y
	Earth Systems Science, BS	Lara Kueppers	Y	Y	Y
	Physics, BS & Minor	Kevin Mitchell	Y	Y	Y
Under-graduate Minors	Natural Sciences Education Minor	Mayya Tokmann	Y	Y	Y
	Environmental Science & Sustainability (new: approved Spring 2010)	?	Y	N/A	N/A
Grad-uate Group	Applied Mathematics	Arnold Kim	Y	N/A	N/A
	Physics & Chemistry	Linda Hirst?	Y?	N/A	N/A
	Quantitative & Systems Biology	Andy LiWang	Y	N/A	N/A

III. School of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts

Two undergraduate majors, Economics and Management, have not developed assessment plans and did not implement program learning outcome assessment. Management does not have an FAO.

The American Studies and Service Sciences Minors were ignored during the CPR due to low enrollments (< 5 students). American Studies has an FAO, Service Sciences does not.

Jan Wallander is leading the development of an assessment plan for the new Interdisciplinary Public Health Minor with support from Anne Zanzucchi in the CRTE. The Chicano/a Studies Minor has PLOs but not an assessment plan and an FAO has not been identified. The SSHA faculty recently voted to grant the SSHA executive committee oversight of these two interdisciplinary minors.

The two newest graduate groups, Cognitive and Information Sciences and Psychology, have established PLOs and assessment plans as part of preparations for CCGA and WASC Substantive Change reviews for new graduate programs. Neither World Cultures nor Social and Cognitive Sciences have established PLOs.

Table 3: SSHA Undergraduate Majors, Minors and Graduate Programs. When not otherwise known, it is assumed that the Graduate Group Chair is the FAO.

	Program	FAO (2008-present)	PLOs Developed	Submitted Assessment Plan in 2009	Submitted 2009 PLO Report
Undergraduate Majors	Anthropology, BA & Minor	Kathleen Hull	Y	Y	No
	Cognitive Science, BA, BS & Minor	Jeff Yoshimi	Y	Y	Y
	Economics, BA & Minor	Shawn Kantor	Y	No	No
	History, BA & Minor	Sholeh Quinn	Y	Y	Y
	Literature and Cultures, BA & Minor	Gregg Camfield	Y	Y	Y
	Management, BS & Minor	?	Y	No	No
	Political Science, BA & Minor	Tom Hansford	Y	Y	Y

	Psychology, BA & Minor	Will Shadish	Y	Y	Y
	Sociology	Irenee Beattie	Y	Y	Y
Undergraduate Minors	American Studies Minor	Gregg Camfield	Y	No	No
	Arts	Susan Amussen	Y	Y	Y
	Philosophy Minor	Peter Vanderschraaf	Y	Y	Y
	Spanish Minor	Virginia Adan-Lifante	Y	Y	Y
	Service Sciences Minor	?	No	No	No
	Writing Minor	Anne Zanzucchi	Y	Y	Y
	Interdisciplinary Public Health (new: approved Spring 2010)	Jan Wallander?	Y	N/A	N/A
	Chicano/a Studies Minor new: approved Spring 2010)	None	Y	N/A	N/A
Graduate Groups	Cognitive and Information Sciences	Chris Kello?	Y	N/A	N/A
	Psychology	Will Shadish?	Y	N/A	N/A
	Social & Cognitive Sciences	Michael Spivey	No	N/A	N/A
	World Cultures	Ignacio Lopez-Calvo	No	N/A	N/A

IV. General Education

General Education currently is not being assessed as a Program. PLOs and an assessment plan were developed and PLO assessment conducted for Core 1. Tom Hothem has led this work, functioning essentially as an FAO for this *course*.