

CASSC Research and Testing Committee

MINUTES

Meeting: Wednesday, February 23, 2011

Building 5000 (Bonnie McCabe Hall), Wolfson Campus, Room 5620

Present: Ana Maria Bradley-Hess, Ian Cobham, Sahyli Galera, Rulx Jean-Bart, Manny Lorenzo (for Carol Tulikangas, David Kaiser (Co-Chairperson), Ivonne Lamazares, Juan Carlos Meza, Dora Mejia-Montoya, Carolina Morales (for Julio Fernandez de Cueto), Adam Porro, Barbara Rodriguez, Silvio Rodriguez (Co-Chairperson), Cynthia Schuemann, Leighton Spence, Susan Thomas (via conference call)

Not Present: Alex Alvarez, Christine Dundas, David Heredia, Ivo Rokovich

I. Review of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of January 26, 2011 were approved with room location change in header to Building 5000 (Bonnie McCabe Hall), Wolfson Campus, Room 5620.

II. Standing Item(s)

A. Research

David Kaiser previewed the upcoming Enrolled Student Survey Report. For the most part results are very similar to last year with the same areas rating highest (Library, Testing, Student Labs, Bursar, Admissions). Students answering the survey are less likely to be working and more likely to be attending MDC to improve their job prospects. Student satisfaction was slightly lower college-wide.

B. Placement Criteria document 2011-2012

Silvio Rodriguez reminded the discipline/area representatives of their role in the annual review process. He then distributed Draft #3 (02/23/2011) of the 2011-2012 Placement Criteria Document and discussed the suggested changes with the Committee. In addition, he informed the Committee that the next step in the review process would be by the Deans. The most recent version of the draft document is available via the Placement Criteria website at http://www.mdc.edu/ir/CPT_CLAST/placement.asp. It includes the changes that were supported by the Committee on 2/23/2011 and subsequent minor changes related to MAT 1033 and the new developmental education courses that will be effective at MDC in 2011-2.

C. Placement Data for Review

Silvio Rodriguez went over the Placement Success Data with the committee which is available via the Placement Criteria website at http://www.mdc.edu/ir/CPT_CLAST/placement.asp and via the Focused Research website at <https://www.mdc.edu/ir/iremployees/focusedresearch.asp>

- [-Placement Data for Review - Preparatory Reading](#)
- [-Placement Data for Review - Preparatory Writing](#)
- [-Placement Data for Review - EAP](#)
- [-Placement Data for Review - English](#)
- [-Placement Data for Review - Mathematics](#)

[College Preparatory Reading / Writing](#)

How well are students performing in [reading](#) and [writing](#) courses based on placement score ranges?

[English for Academic Purposes \(EAP\)](#)

[How well are students performing in each course based on placement score ranges?](#)

[Mathematics](#)

[How well are students performing in each course based on placement score ranges?](#)

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D. Testing Fees effective July 1, 2011

Adam Porro reported that at this time, the Testing Directors are considering recommending a \$10 testing fee for CASAS, which currently has no fee assigned (initial testing only, not for post-testing), increasing the COMPASS/ESL retesting fee from \$10 to \$20 to help cover the additional costs associated with implementing the COMPASS/ESL e-Write, and a \$20 testing fee for students taking community education online insurance courses.

III. New Business

A. Research Requests

The Committee reviewed, discussed and voted on the following request:

Researcher: Professor Gathercole / Bangor University, Wales, UK (**Approved 15 - 0**)

Proposal: The relationship between a bilingual's two languages: semantics, syntax and the development of assessment tools

B. April Meeting

The April 27 meeting was moved to April 20 because the last week of April is busy due to Virtual College testing.

IV. Follow-up Items

A. Research Requests

David Kaiser reported that the following research request was approved via email.

Researcher: Michelle Thomas, PhD / Miami Dade College (**Approved 15 - 0 via email**)

Proposal: Title-V Project ACE (Accelerated Content-based English)

B. Post Secondary Education Readiness Test (PERT)

Silvio Rodriguez informed the Committee of the following PERT updates (**see attached**).

- State-wide there have been 4,434 P.E.R.T. subtests administered since the 10/25/2010 launch and Florida State College at Jacksonville is leading the state in the number of administrations (MDC = 577). Tallahassee Community College is a close second. The total number of administrations per subtest is: 1,427 in mathematics (MDC = 198), 1,865 in reading (MDC = 207) and 1,142 in English/writing (MDC = 198). The average scores earned per subtest are: 89.58 in mathematics (113 is college ready), 105.01 in reading (104 is college ready) and 108.56 in English/writing (99 is college ready).
- Passages on the reading subtest are lengthy and McCann Associates will be retiring those passages as new passages and items are moved from field testing to production. As a result of the faculty testing window, some faculty commented on the complexity of the items, indicating that there are too many easy items. MDC feedback from mathematics faculty was low. Reach out to the mathematics faculty will be done again for feedback before finishing the MDC PERT report by the end of the Spring semester.
- It is anticipated that the Diagnostics will be ready for launch this spring.
- It is anticipated that high schools will be authorized P.E.R.T. administration sites. Research has been conducted on the school districts and high schools that currently have the technology and facilities to administer P.E.R.T. A school district and partner college will be identified to pilot the high school administration this spring with the intent of identifying logistical and technical issues before the statewide rollout. The pilot school district is expected to be Hillsborough County.

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V. Information Items

- A. Silvio Rodriguez informed the Committee that MDC will be hosting a FACTA Region V (South Florida) Spring Meeting, Thursday, May 12, 2011, Wolfson Campus, Rm. 2106.
- B. Silvio Rodriguez informed the Committee on the College Prep Discipline's Draft Action Plan - Course Redesign/Implementation for 2011-2012 which includes a deadline date for updating the placement criteria document (see attached).

VI. Reports

- A. **Testing Directors** – Adam Porro reported on the following:

Testing Road Show - PERT Special Edition

Testing Directors are currently offering or scheduling workshops for the Testing Road Show. North and Hialeah Campuses hosted the first two workshops. Currently scheduled workshops are below.

West Campus on Friday, February 25th at 2:00pm

Wolfson Campus on Friday, April 15th at 2:00pm

PERT First Time

To increase the amount of data collected for PERT, testing centers will offer PERT to first time in college students who are required to take the placement test; this offer does not include high school students. This strategy to increase test administrations will begin on Monday, March 4, 2011 and end on April 1, 2011. A script will be created to inform new students about this temporary procedure.

Learning Outcomes Initiative

Dr. Sean Madison spoke with the directors and indicated the College appreciated the support provided by the Testing Centers to assist with Task 6. He indicated that more classes will be assessed during spring 2010-2 for Task 6. The group discussed the checklist that was established to ensure a seamless transition for administering the CSP and collecting data to forward to Institutional Research and the Learning Outcomes offices. Dr. Madison also provided an overview of the activities related to program level learning outcomes and the types of assessments departments are developing to assess the program level outcomes.

FACTA Regional Meeting

All testing directors will assist Region V co-directors, Adam Porro and Barbara Rodriguez, with planning the event. A survey will be developed and administered through the FACTA listserv to make sure the meeting addresses specific areas that are of interest to testing staff and administrators who will be attending the meeting.

SAT/ACT Scores Entered Manually

Nelson Magana reported that he shared this issue with the 18's, and the group is supportive of making sure students request that scores be sent to Miami Dade College before the scores are entered manually. It is important that the students request their scores be sent directly to MDC to avoid a score being canceled and then MDC not be aware of it.

ASVAB

Wolfson Campus hosted a pilot test administration of ASVAB. The session did not go as smoothly as planned, but the ASVAB representatives would like to move forward. Additional pilot test administrations will be scheduled.

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B. IR Activities

David Kaiser reported on the following IR activities:

- Completed FTE-2 Enrollment Estimates – annual enrollment up 7%
- Fall 2010 Profile – Credit and Noncredit Students – published to IR website
- Fall 2010 demographics published to IR website; campus briefing packages in progress
- Upcoming Fall-to-Fall Retention (Folsom) – retention up 2%.
- Upcoming Steelcase/LearnLab Environment – MDC Classroom Pilot - Faculty Survey

C. Area Report for CASSC Research and Testing Representatives

Deans: Manny Lorenzo reported on the following:

The Linux conversion is underway and the “Go Live” date is March 28, 2011.

College Prep: Leighton Spence reported on the following:

The College Preparatory discipline met on January 27. Items discussed included updates on the procedures used for placement adjustment and Exit Test retesting as well as on Program Outcomes and Learning Outcomes’ task force, Honor Society – Chi Alpha Epsilon, PERT/Diagnostics, and Course re-design.

EAP: Cynthia Schuemann reported on the following:

The EAP discipline will be meeting on March 18 and program learning outcomes will be one of the main items discussed.

English: Ivonne Lamazares reported on the following:

The English discipline will be meeting next week and may use Criterion for assessing program learning outcomes.

Registrars: Rulx reported on the following:

The title of the campus Registrar will be changed to Director of Admissions and Registration Services and the College Registrar will be reporting directly to the Kendall Campus President.

Advisement: Susan Thomas reported on the following:

Mailers to students for The College Fair and Open Houses are on-going.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Research & Testing Committee will be Wednesday, March 30, 2011 at 2:00pm in building 5000 (Bonnie McCabe Hall), Wolfson Campus Room 5620.

Distribution:

CASSC Research & Testing Committee
Billy Oliver, CASSC Chairperson, 2010-2011
Joanne Bashford, Associate Provost of Institutional Effectiveness
Pamela Menke, Vice Provost for Education
Michael Reiner, Associate Provost of Academic Affairs

The Florida College System

Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.)

Administrations

The P.E.R.T. Placement was launched October 25, 2011. As of February 4, 2011 there have been 4,434 P.E.R.T. subtests administered since the launch and Florida State College at Jacksonville is leading the state in the number of administrations. Tallahassee Community College is a close second. The total number of administrations per subtest is: 1,427 in mathematics, 1,865 in reading and 1,142 in English/writing. The average scores earned per subtest are: 89.58 in mathematics, 105.01 in reading and 108.56 in English/writing.

Course Placement

The interim cut scores were established on the basis of course placements from the past 3 years. It is important for colleges to monitor student placement and performance during the transition period. Flexibility for faculty to re-place students during the beginning of the term may be necessary. The establishment of final cut scores in State Board Rule depends on the number of administrations and subsequent course performance data.

Feedback

The Division has received feedback from test administrators and faculty. Technical questions and concerns should be addressed directly to McCann Associates. Content and policy related questions should be directed to the Division of Florida Colleges. Content related comments are being compiled and will be discussed with McCann Associates. We are aware that some of the reading passages on the reading subtest are lengthy and McCann Associates will be retiring those passages as new passages and items are moved from field testing to production. As a result of the faculty testing window, some faculty have commented on the complexity of the items, indicating that there are too many easy items. While it is necessary for the item pool to include a range of cognitive complexity in its items per competency, McCann Associates will continue to monitor the item level statistics to ensure the test is not “too easy.”

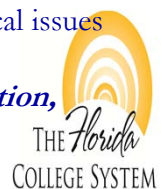
Diagnostics

The Division of Florida Colleges, in cooperation with McCann Associates and the Office of Postsecondary Assessment, will be meeting with faculty workgroups on February 17-18 in Tallahassee to write items for the P.E.R.T. Diagnostic. This will ensure the items are aligned with the developmental education competencies and range in cognitive complexity. The Diagnostic reports will enable faculty to identify deficiencies and target instruction to ensure students are well prepared for entry level college credit coursework. It is anticipated that the Diagnostics will be ready for launch this spring.

High Schools as Authorized Administration Sites

It is anticipated that high schools will be authorized P.E.R.T. administration sites. Research has been conducted on the school districts and high schools that currently have the technology and facilities to administer P.E.R.T. A school district and partner college will be identified to pilot the high school administration this spring with the intent of identifying logistical and technical issues before the statewide rollout.

To all the colleges who have transitioned to P.E.R.T. and those planning to transition, the Division of Florida Colleges thanks you!



Your Working Solution

College Prep Discipline's Action Plan

Course Redesign/Implementation 2011-2012

Draft

Who's Responsible?	Task	Deadline
Disciplines	Review course competencies for redesigned developmental education courses.	March 1, 2011
Dr. Billy Jones Dr. Jermaine Brown Dr. Mollie DeHart Ms. Zeraida Camps Ms. Dulce Beltran	Submit CASSC forms for all courses using CurricuNet so that the courses are connected to the Odyssey system; align course user fees to all courses	March 1, 2011
Disciplines Ms. Dulce Beltran	Review crosswalk (translation of old courses to new courses); review information for evaluation; update; follow-up as a discussion item during a discipline meeting.	April 30, 2011
Dr. Billy Jones Dr. Jermaine Brown Dr. Jeffrey Thomas Dr. Lenore Rodicio	Present course redesign to the ALC	March 17, 2011 Or April 7, 2011
Dr. Billy Jones Mr. Silvio Rodriguez Dr. Mollie DeHart Ms. Dulce Beltran	Update Placement Review Criteria—Adjust current CPT placement scores to fit two levels; establish a matriculation procedure for current/old prep students who still need to complete developmental education; update mainframe programming logic.	June 1, 2011
Discipline Conveners Dr. Billy Jones Dr. Jermaine Brown	Reflect discipline's work with the redesigned courses in the discipline report.	June 1, 2011
Disciplines' Faculty	Align/adopt textbooks for the redesigned courses.	September 30, 2011
Disciplines College Training & Development Advising Services Student Services Deans	Create and implement workshops for discipline faculty and staff and Advising Services to familiarize discipline members with the redesigned courses.	March-December 2011
Disciplines Dr. Billy Jones Dr. Jermaine Brown	Present courses to college-wide CASSC	March-December 2011
College Prep & Math Faculty	Course selection for spring 2011-2.	October 2011
All	Course redesign implementation is completed.	December 2011

Note: This action plan is subject to change.

Revised 2/10/11