

Annual Report for Assessment of Outcomes

(For Degree, Certificate or Core Outcomes)

To complete this Assessment Report, please address the questions below, and send to learningassessment@pcc.edu **by June 20, 2011**; subject line: REPORT Assessment [SAC]

1. Describe changes that have been implemented towards improving students' attainment of outcomes that resulted from outcome assessments carried out in the previous academic year.

(Information provided here may be referenced, inserted into or summarized in Program Review 2.C.iii (for Core Outcomes) or 6.B.iii (for CTE Degree and Certificate outcomes).

The Nursing Program has gone through a major curriculum revision and all of our assessment methods were altered to adjust for the new curriculum. See program review completed April 2011.

NOTE: the NUR Program Review is posted at:

<http://www.pcc.edu/resources/academic/program-review/index.html>

2. Identify the outcomes assessed this year, and describe the methods used.
What were the results of the assessment (i.e., what did you learn about how well students are meeting the outcomes)?

(Information provided here may be referenced, inserted into or summarized in Program Review 2.C.i& ii (for Core Outcomes) or 6.B.i & ii (for CTE Degree and Certificate outcomes)

a. Describe the method(s) you used.

See program review completed April 2011 and accompanying appendix documents.

b. Results: What did you learn?

The implementation of a new curriculum presented many learning opportunities for the Nursing Program. Students demonstrated difficulty with transitioning from a single course in fall term to three courses in winter and spring. This was the first year of implementation of the OCNE curriculum and the first time we have used a letter grading scheme. We uncovered a greater need to provide points for paperwork and projects that was not apparent in a P/NP system. We also realized the students were having difficulty with multiple tests being required in a weeks' time, as well as a summary test and cumulative final test being given with little time between for remediation. Additionally this cohort of students did not have the benefit of other second year students to connect with and learn from, they expressed their feeling like they did not have anyone to commiserate with.

3. Identify any changes that should, as a result of this assessment, be implemented towards improving students' attainment of outcomes.

(Information provided here may be referenced, inserted into or summarized in Program Review 2.C.iii (for Core Outcomes) or 6.B.iii (for CTE Degree and Certificate outcomes)

Areas that the nursing program felt needed to be addressed after assessment of student achievement of outcomes in the first year of OCNE implementation, as identified in the Program Review, April 2011, were :

- The grading scheme of the nursing courses changed from P/NP to a letter grade scale with the implementation of OCNE. The SAC will revisit the level of point structure for the course grades as well as points for course work requirements such as papers and projects to provide credit for work done.
- Sequencing of testing will be done that will provide time between exams of concurrent courses as well as between a summary exam and a final exam. This will give students opportunity for remediation and to seek and receive faculty assistance.
- In order to address the barriers to completion, it is recommended that the Student Mentor program be reinstated and follow through on assessing for student language strengths at pre-admission. Early communication and orientation for students will help connect students the program and services early.