PME Planning Update

On behalf of Dr. Napoleon Moses, Chief of Staff, and the members of the PME planning group, congratulations to the university on the work done thus far with FY14 planning. PME planning integrates annual program and learning outcomes-based plans at the unit level with assessment and budgeting.

All university units with a budget prepare PME plans each year, using the results of assessment and evaluation data, as well as self-defined goals that tie to the university’s Strategic Plan, to project the unit’s annualized objectives and related budget requests.

In this first year of using PME planning, all university units submitted a draft plan. Vice-presidents and deans utilized these draft plans as the basis for preparing their budget requests for new funds to the University Budget Committee. The University Assessment Committee has provided feedback on the assessment portions of the plans.

Final drafts of FY14 plans will be due at the end of the semester. In due course, all units will prepare FY 15 plans, reiterating the process that was initiated this year.

Spring 2013 Workshops

The Spring 2013 university assessment workshops will focus on ePortfolios as a basis for formative and summative assessments. Dr. Mike Sukowski, Director of the Center for Teaching and Research Excellence, will make a presentation on “ePortfolios: from Student Assessment to a Career Tool.”

Look to be informed about the possibilities of using LiveText® for assessments throughout a student’s academic career, including its utility for assessing senior capstone theses/projects. The workshops also will provide an opportunity for non-academic units to understand the role of assessment vis-a-vis program and learning outcomes in PME planning. Look for further information soon about the March 25-26 conferences. The meetings also will feature remote viewing and recording/archiving via the Moodle Assessment shell.
Assessment Update – General Education

A special word of thanks is due to all assessment coordinators for participating in the HLC visit. You described your work in assessment regarding the courses you teach, as well as departmental assessment coordination. You also conveyed strong support for assessment of student learning in all its forms at Chicago State.

General education assessment coordinators have submitted reports for Fall 2012 and are actively involved this semester in the submission of General Education courses for review.

All existing and new courses must apply to be considered for the revised/new general education curriculum. This entails presenting a proposed course syllabus and related assessment instrument(s) with criteria linked to the course and general education learning outcomes.

The deadline for submission has recently been extended to February 28, 2013, when the General Education Committee will begin a careful review process.

LiveText and Assessment

CSU is one of over 500 educational institutions using LiveText® software. LiveText® is an evidence-based assessment tool that features digital interactive rubrics and scoring guides. Students submit work, and faculty assess the work in LiveText® using a rubric/scoring guide.

LiveText® archives candidate work and assessment results at the same time. This achieves greater accountability and accuracy in data and allows for meaningful discussion of program objectives relative to results. LiveText® facilitates data-driven decisions.

At CSU, we also have transformed the use of LiveText®. Based on the creativity of Dr. Nancy Grim, Assistant Dean in the College of Education, LiveText® is now used not only for assessment of candidate work but also for archiving digital media/artifacts. The structure of a LiveText® document, in the sense of a candidate’s work/portfolio, has been transformed into a secure and organized method of documentation relative to accreditation and certification. This LiveText® organization has even made the CSU model a template for other colleges and universities to imitate.

LiveText® has been used at CSU for many years, including for the HLC Focus Visit, NCAA Division I Certification, NCATE accreditation, and the HLC Self Study. The University Assessment Committee also uses LiveText® to archive and score program assessment and PME plans and reports. Other recent implementations have been for general education assessment, social work courses, and for occupational therapy. LiveText® also was used by the Nursing Department to develop its archival media center for the NLNAC Self Study.

For more information about LiveText® at CSU, contact Mr. Steve Damarjian in the College of Education (ext. 2097, sdamarji@csu.edu).