De Anza College

SLO News

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME CONTACTS

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SSLO/AUO

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SLO STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Faculty:
- ♦ **Veronica Avila**
- ♦ **Mary Pape**
- ♦ **Toño Ramirez**
- ♦ **Jacquelyn Reza**

Classified Professional
- ♦ **Mallory Newell**

Administrators:
- ♦ **Christina Espinosa-Pieb**
- ♦ **Susan Cheu**
- ♦ **Marisa Spatafore**
- ♦ **Rowena Tomaneng**
- ♦ **Coleen Lee-Wheat**

Help Hours in Academic Senate Office:
⇒ Tuesdays, 10:00-11:00 am
⇒ Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 pm

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, April 17, 2015
2015 Convocation

Morning Meeting:
Focus on ICC: Physical/mental wellness and personal responsibility – programs currently in place on campus, their assessment and how they affect the students you work with. One such program addressing students with food anxiety is chronicled in article below.

Breakout Sessions will follow the morning meeting and will run the gamut from equity to furry friends (companion pets)

Afternoon:
Departments/Areas will dialogue to prepare the **SLO Assessment Plan (see page 3)** spreadsheet due Monday April 20th at 5:00 pm.
2014-15 "The Year of Reflection":=> Program Review SLO Assessment Plan in its Place

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SSLO's Addressing Food Insecurities

By Veronica Acevedo Avila

In my role as SSLO and AUO coordinator, I've been meeting with staff and faculty from non-instructional divisions and departments to assist them in the process of entering their information into TracDat. You would think this would be mundane work, yet I've found myself fascinated with the stories they tell me. Prior to becoming a Reading Instructor, I worked as a counselor at De Anza for over a decade and I am familiar with many of the benefits Student Services provide the college. But I never imagined how necessary these services are to overall student success. While I met with many staff and faculty from Students Services, Occupational Training Institute (OTI) left an indelible mark. OTI prepares low-income students for

Anthony Nguyen and Dick Sherman in the background receive donated food and ready for our De Anza students on a Tuesday morning

"The Team"
from left to right:
Anthony Nguyen
Carlita Alamban
Dick Sherman
Cecil Dobbs

jobs through educational and vocational training in order to be gainfully employed upon completion of the program. Many of the students are parents on state aid while others may have been laid off from jobs.

A few months ago I met with OTI supervisor Dan Dishno. He spoke to me about the various SSLOs his team had created, assessed, and critiqued. Dan emphasized how one particular SSLO changed to meet students' most basic need of food. He provided me with detailed information about their entire SSLO process. I learned that the OTI staff provides many services, such as resume preparation, transportation services, childcare, counseling, health insurance, domestic violence intervention, housing assistance, to name of few. When someone uses OTI's services, the staff provides an orientation followed by additional counseling services on an as-needed basis. They work hard to ensure that each OTI student knows the various services they offer and how they can best use these services. For instance, if a student is in need of childcare, OTI will provide information about options to ensure that students get the child care coverage they need to attend classes.

As much as Dan and the OTI staff would like to think that all affiliated students know about every service they offer, they knew this wasn't the case. So his team conducted a survey to find out which OTI services students knew versus which ones they needed to better advertise. The SSLO assessment survey results showed that the majority of students didn't know about food and shelter services. But more importantly, the team found out the true extent to which this service was needed because students reported that they were coming to class hungry. These individuals didn't have the money to buy food for themselves nor their families.

The SSLO assessment survey results helped identify food insecurity issues amongst students and OTI took action. OTI's Sabrina Stewart and West Valley's Community Services staff began discussions and the food pantry idea soon came to fruition. "Their wonderful staff, Tricia Uyeda and Debbie Witt, have been fantastic to work with. We also have great delivery guys. Being able to supply our low income families with supplemental food [when they have limited] food has been a blessing," states Dan Dishno, OTI's supervisor. When OTI decided to start this food pantry they made certain that every OTI student would be informed about the service. Parents and children began using this pantry. OTI is currently working on their SSLO enhancement, which means they will assess the food pantry program to ensure that no one goes to class on an empty stomach due to lack of funds.
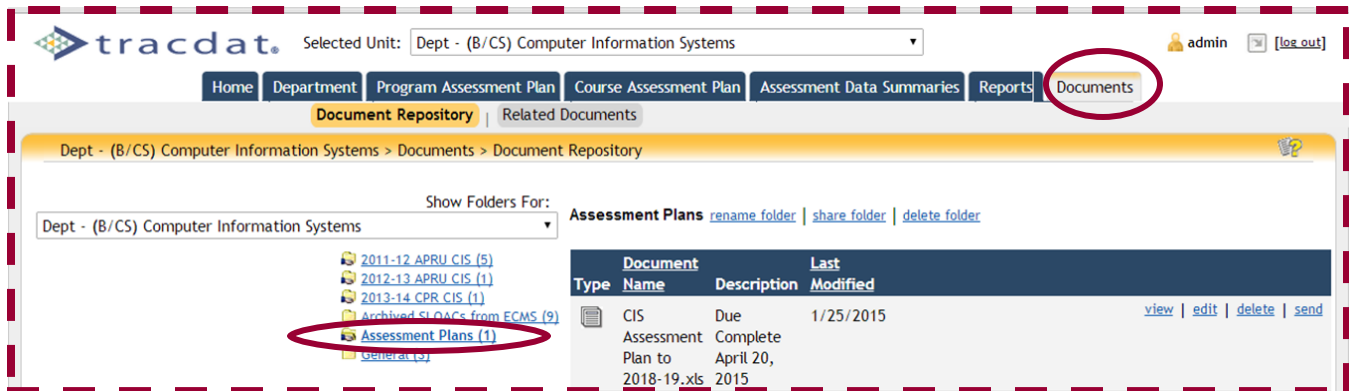
Some years back I visited the Second Harvest Food Bank and was shocked to learn that roughly one in ten people living in Santa Clara County do not have enough food. Second Harvest serves over 250,000 people per year. This is symptomatic of food insecurity, which is defined by the USDA as "limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways." OTI's assessment results made sense; many of our students come to school hungry because they can't afford to buy food. It also makes sense when we consider the high cost of living in the Silicon Valley. It is indeed one of the top twenty most expensive counties in the nation as reported by Matt Woolsey in Forbes magazine (Jan. 2008). OTI students exemplify Santa Clara County's economically marginalized population.

I've used various books in my classes, yet a strong narrative profoundly affects my students most. I understand this because a personal story has power to transfix and transform readers and leaves a lasting impression. Dan's narrative was a force. OTI students are my students and my students are your students. When I'm in the classroom, I'm not thinking about whether my students are hungry. I'm thinking about what I'm going to teach them that day, that week, and that quarter. But I've had a change of perspective, and I've suddenly realized that we are a village, and it requires equal input from both instruction and non-instructional support to help our students succeed.

The "ASK":

Assessment plan spanning from 2014-15 to 2018-19
Due Monday April 20th at 5:00 pm

Step 1: Login into TracDat -> navigate to documents
-> Choose Assessment Plan Folder
-> Download the file

Step 2: During a department meeting and/or on the day of the 2015 Convocation decide when each student learning outcome statement will be assessed during the time period between 2014– 15 through 2018-19. This should be the second assessment at minimum since all assessments were due by Spring 2014.

Step 3: Upload the completed file which might look something like: