

**Mesa Community College**  
**Student Outcomes Assessment AY2010-2011**

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**Executive Summary**

The MCC Program to Assess Student Learning has historically demonstrated evidence of student learning in both general education and career and technical areas. A common set of student learning outcomes provide the foundation for assessment. The assessment process is a part of the college culture and is a collaborative effort of faculty in many disciplines. Faculty members across nearly all disciplines and campus locations participate in the college's award-winning assessment program.

During the 15th-annual Assessment Week in spring 2011, SOC focused assessment efforts on the Arts and Humanities and Cultural Diversity assessments which were last administered in spring 2007. A brief summary of results by assessment for the most recent years can be found below.

**Summary of Findings – Assessment Weeks 2009-2011**

<b>Outcome and Year Assessed</b>	<b>Results</b>
Arts and Humanities – Assessed 2011	Significant differences were observed between completing and beginning student scores in all the following learning outcome areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a basic knowledge of human creations</li> <li>• an awareness that different contexts and/or world views produce different human creations</li> <li>• an understanding and awareness of the impact that a piece has on the relationship and perspective of the audience</li> <li>• an ability to evaluate human creations</li> </ul>
Cultural Diversity – Assessed 2011	Students in the completing group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognized the value of diversity</li> <li>• Supported requiring students to complete a diversity course in order to graduate</li> <li>• Recognized the importance of civic responsibility</li> </ul>
Workplace Skills – Assessed 2010	The average score of the completing student group was higher than the entering student group by a statistically significant margin. The post group also scored statistically higher in all but one outcome area (interpersonal communication). Overall, students' scores ranked highest in: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. technology literacy</li> <li>2. ethics</li> <li>3. personal and professional responsibility</li> </ol> <i>For the past several years, teamwork and organization scores ranked lowest compared to the other outcome areas.</i>
Problem Solving – Assessed 2009	The average score was significantly higher for the completing student group overall and for the “deduction” sub-area of the assessment. <i>As with past years, mean scores have been highest for the Interpretation and Evaluation of Arguments sections and lowest for Inference.</i>

**Summary of Findings – Assessment Weeks 2009-2011 (continued)**

Global Awareness – Assessed 2009 (Pilot)	<p>An item analysis of the Global Awareness Assessment results by an external consultant yielded the following highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Global Awareness pilot instrument is statistically reliable.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The instrument will likely produce consistent scores in future administrations.</li> <li>○ A low level of variability (2.6%) due to random measurement error existed in individual student scores; therefore, students are likely to receive similar scores on the instrument over multiple administrations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A majority of items (58.3%) were classified as having a “good” level of discrimination, meaning that the student more likely correctly answered a question based on subject-area knowledge than by chance. The remaining items fell into the “fair” discrimination classification, and no items were rated “poor.”</li> <li>• Overall, the item analysis indicates a need to change only a small number of items in order to increase instrument reliability and validity.</li> </ul>
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**Overview of MCC Student Outcomes Assessment Results**

Outcome	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<i>Arts &amp; Humanities</i>					
<i>Cultural Diversity</i>					
<i>Oral Communication</i>					
<i>Written Communication</i>					
<i>Numeracy</i>					
<i>Scientific Inquiry</i>					
<i>Problem Solving/Critical Thinking</i>					
<i>Information Literacy</i>					
<i>Workplace Skills</i>					
<i>Global Awareness</i>					

	Significant Results		Not Assessed
	No Significant Results		Pilot Year or In Development
	Sample Size too Small for Pre/Post Group Analysis		Assessment Instrument Under Review/Revision

## **SOC Highlights**

The MCC Student Outcomes Committee has achieved a number of significant accomplishments for the 2010-2011 academic year:

- Creation of two faculty clusters to review and revise the workplace skills assessment and the information literacy tools, each with a mandate to ensure the timeliness of each tool as currently written, or to revise/revamp as necessary, as well as to ensure alignment of each tool with MCC's current mission, vision, and strategic priorities.
- Successful completion of Assessment Week 2011, with 65 faculty volunteering a total of 103 sections for testing of the Arts and Humanities and the Cultural Diversity tools.
- Integration of SOC priorities and the HLC Pilot Project.

SOC's future goals and plans include the following:

- Awarding ROC grants for the 2011-2012 year to one or more faculty participants.
- Hiring and training faculty for scoring of the 2011 Arts and Humanities assessment tool.
- Developing a scoring rubric for the Global Awareness tool.
- Continuing to support the HLC Pilot Project through defining and refining SOC's role, including committee membership recruitment from each academic unit.
- Developing a faculty cluster to review the current Cultural Diversity assessment tool.

## **Results Outreach sub-Committee Activities**

ROC was formed to focus efforts and ensure increased emphasis on the use of results from the student assessment program. ROC developed a call for proposals which is sent annually to all full-time faculty members. Submitted proposals are reviewed by the ROC members against a set of criteria, and recommendations for funding are forwarded to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for final approval.

Following the procedure established over the last few academic years, SOC solicited ROC proposals in fall 2010 and again in spring 2011. ROC Grants were awarded to two proposals: Online Assessment Platform for MCC's Nursing Department and MCC Book Club. See Appendix B for ROC forms and documents.

## **Faculty Senate Student Outcomes Committee - AY2010-11**

Emi Ahn

Keith Anderson

Derek Borman

Peter Brown

Diana Bullen

Tim Florschuetz (Co-Chair Elect)

Dave Harris

Juan Marquez

Sam Martinez

Betty Parisek (Co-Chair Elect)

Kathleen Pollard

Ly Tran-Nguyen

Ex-officio members:

Matt Ashcraft (ORP)

Dennis Mitchell (ORP)

Jim Mabry (VPAA)