Faculty to Faculty Conference
Science Team
gtPathways Competencies Discussion
April 24, 2015

I. Review of competencies
   a. Critical Thinking
      i. New version (see CDHE document)
      ii. Discussion of selection
         1. One issue for "or" is that for gt acceptance, the course must assess the outcome and prove it
         2. What if one institution chooses a different competency than another in the nomination form for the same class?
            a. Allow for diversity in the competencies that are chosen depending on the discipline
            b. Keep competencies consistent
            c. CCCS institutions all review all courses
            d. Universities are more autonomous in the approval process
      iii. Do we have to include all of the sub-components of the competency in any gt submission?
         1. The prevailing answer is "yes," all sub-components need to be included in the gt application
      iv. Motion is to approve the "or" in the revised competencies for critical thinking and problem solving to state that SC1 and SC2 classes assess CT "OR" PS
         1. See "v, 1"
      v. Does the new CT competency meet the needs of learners better than the current competency?
         1. No (10), 1 abstain, Yes (3)
            a. Why? The newer competencies are too proscriptive and the old ones provide a greater degree of flexibility for interpretation given the breadth of courses that are offered in the science disciplines
            b. Want to keep the old CT competency and not adopt the Problem Solving competency and not move forward with the new revised ones
         2. New ones: these are nationally based and could allow us to compare with other institutions around the country
            a. Already have rubrics to use
         3. Recommend to take out the word "personal" from the "create a personal response" from the critical thinking competency
   b. Problem Solving/Critical Thinking competencies
      i. Add the word "communicate: in the revised competencies
   c. Mathematics competency
      i. What do we think of the new Quantitative Literacy competency?

1. Addresses issues in quantitative reasoning and helps us understand how to assess and measure them better
        ii. Does the new QL competency meet the needs of learners better?
            1. Unanimously, Yes; required for both SC1 and SC2
    d. Information Literacy
        i. Does the new competency meet the needs of the learner?
            1. Unanimously, Yes
        ii. Should this be required in SC1 courses?
            1. Unanimously, Yes
        iii. List as optional for SC2 or get rid of it?
            1. Remove it from the SC2 list; unanimous
    e. Take both communication competencies off the list altogether
    f. Creative Thinking
        i. Creativity is not just for arts and humanities, etc.; science is creative as well
    g. Remove all the optional competencies from the SC1 and SC2 lists
II. General comments/feedback
    a. None of the competencies appear to be written with science disciplines in mind
    b. The AACU "Inquiry/Analysis" competency would fit better with the science disciplines
        i. Do we have the option to adopt it?
    c. If we are forced to take the new competencies, we want the OR, not an AND.