

Assessment Taskforce

Minutes

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 / 12:30-2PM / President's Conference Room, 1901

1. Welcome
2. Data on Retest Policy (Leiserson)
3. Multiple Measures Pilot Discussion (Wheat)
4. Smarter Balance / EAP – Acceptance of “conditional” standard (LaManque)
5. Taskforce Meeting Scheduling (Wheat)

Present:

Katie Ha, Allison Herman, Carolyn Holcroft, Andrew LaManque, Liz Leiserson, Paul Starer, Victor Tam, Casie Wheat

Welcome

Data on Retest Policy (Leiserson)

Liz Leiserson presented data on the numbers of students taking placement tests following the implementation of the revised retest policy. The data suggest that the number of retests has not increased in Math, and has only increased modestly in English and ESL. Leiserson discussed analysis of students taking both English and ESL tests, which was expected, but did not occur as often as expected. She also noted that in general students' scores increased from their initial tests to their retests. LaManque stated that this was evidence that supported the intent of the revised retest policy. The committee agreed that the preliminary data was positive, and Leiserson agreed to continue to monitor the trends in students' retests.

Multiple Measures Pilot Discussion (Wheat)

Casie Wheat requested feedback on the current status of the multiple measures pilot. The taskforce agreed that the college was ready to implement a pilot as soon as the winter or spring quarter. First steps included identifying a population and to then draft a proposal. A possible student population for the pilot was identified as: those students who took a placement test, but have not yet enrolled in the course sequence. The taskforce agreed to begin with an English pilot project first, because the pathways are fewer, which streamlines the implementation and evaluation of a pilot. Potential barriers were discussed. These barriers included: the inability to collect the high school transcripts for pilot students; difficulties obtaining CCCIDs from Banner databases, which CalPass+ uses as the student's unique identifier.

A draft proposal would be presented to the next meeting for discussion.

Smarter Balance / EAP – Acceptance of “conditional” standard (LaManque)

Andrew LaManque noted that the EAP with Smarter Balance now had a different scale with higher standards. LaManque stated that the college may want to consider the “conditional” standard for completion of 12th grade to meet our eligibility requirements. Currently, CSUs accepted the “conditional” scores, as long as the student satisfies the requirement to complete an approved 12th grade course. Holcroft expressed concern over the task of determining which high school classes would satisfy the requirement for “conditional” scores to be accepted. Leiserson responded that she believes the CSUs have established a standard list of 12th grade courses that satisfy the requirement. Leiserson also noted that the CAI platform plan includes incorporating EAP scores (among other high school data) for every student, which would simplify acceptance of conditional scores. LaManque added that with the Smarter Balanced tests, all students receive an EAP score, which was not previously the case, so many more students now have an EAP score. Given the new context, EAP “conditional” scores may be included for faculty to consider as part of the assessment options in the CAI and multiple measures projects. More conversations to follow on this standard.

Taskforce Meeting Scheduling (Wheat)

The fall quarter meetings would be rescheduled to ensure the attendance of committee tri-chairs, lead math faculty, Patrick Morriss, and lead English faculty, Allison Herman. The meeting scheduling updates would be sent out via Outlook.