

March 12, 2015

TO: Faculty Policy Committee
CC: Academic Senate Executive Committee
Joni Onishi, VCAA

FR: E. Kalani Flores, HawCC ALO

RE: eCAFE Question to address ACCJC Standards and Eligibility Requirements

Perhaps I can provide some background and clarity regarding the request for to include a particular question in eCAFE to address the ACCJC Requirement as noted in HawCC's ACCJC Follow-up Report 2014 (p. 19). This request is intended to address not just this requirement, but several ACCJC Standards and Eligibility Requirements regarding the evaluation of student learning outcomes at the College. It would be used to assess learning outcomes as part of a multi-approach assessment process.

Firstly, the use of eCAFE is only one part of the evaluation process regarding student learning outcomes. **However, it could be considered a significant part of the process because it provides direct student feedback pertaining to their learning.** At the moment, the College is in need of an evaluation process for course SLOs based upon student assessments. Because eCAFE is already set-up with ease of use by all faculty/lecturers and students, that is why the use of eCAFE is being proposed to provide some form of evidence of student learning as it pertains to outcomes. Data could be easily extracted from the overall college results for a specific question in eCAFE and then used as evidence in reporting purposes on a consistent basis each semester. Another reason for the use of eCAFE is that HawCC has one of the highest use rates in the UHCC system (i.e. Spring 2014 – 100% of instructors/courses activated eCAFE for use by their students). As such, the data would provide a good overall sampling of the College's courses.

There shouldn't be only one method or tool used for assessing SLOs. There should be a multi-approach to this evaluation process incorporating all stakeholders as noted below for instructional programs:

- 1) eCAFE – students would be allowed to provide direct feedback regarding SLOs for their courses; data could be extracted from the overall college results for a specific question in eCAFE and then used as evidence in reporting purposes
- 2) Program Reviews – CERC and Admin already provides feedback regarding program alignment and SLOs; for some instructional programs, faculty/advisory groups/community stakeholders also provide feedback regarding the assessment of specific course SLOs; this information is readily available for reporting purposes by being inputted into PATH

- 3) DPC/TPRC – faculty peers and Admin provides feedback regarding primary duties and other responsibilities, to include aspects of SLOs; done at least every 5 years for each faculty member; this information is typically confidential and it is uncertain as to how this data would be available for reporting purposes
- 4) Lecturer Evaluations – faculty peers and Admin provides feedback regarding instruction and other duties, to include aspects of SLOs; done regularly for each lecturer; this information is typically confidential and it is uncertain as to how this data would be available for reporting purposes

Also, the proposed eCAFE question could be utilized by faculty and lecturers in their tenure/promotion documents or evaluations as evidence of student learning. As noted in these policies (emphasis added), “...*faculty members design measurable or observable learning outcomes and assess and provide evidence of student learning.*” The use of eCAFE would be utilized in same manner that it is presently used for a self-analysis of one’s primary duties. The only difference is that it would just include an additional question as proposed.

Thus, I’m suggesting that the following question (or similar question) be included as a part of the group of standard questions to address in part several ACCJC Standards and Eligibility Requirements.

Student learning outcomes for this course were met.

Should any FPC members have any reservations or objections to this proposal, perhaps it could be more explicitly explained as to any perceived problem for such a proposal.

One option for the FPC to consider is to include the proposed eCAFE question on a trial basis for Fall 2015 – Spring 2016 and then make a final determination afterwards.

Another option would have the College develop a more comprehensive student survey regarding SLOs and task all faculty and lecturers with its implementation.