

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

A Report on the 2010-2011 Assessment Cycle

Submitted to the
Northland Pioneer College Instructional Council

by the
Assessment of Student Knowledge (ASK)
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Table of Contents

OVERVIEW of the 2009-2010 ASSESSMENT CYCLE	2
FIGURES and TABLES:	
FIGURE 1: NPC's General Assessment Model with 2010-11 cycle	4
TABLE 1: Departmental Reports Received by ASK	5

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1	The Assessment of Student of Knowledge (ASK) Subcommittee
APPENDIX 2	General Education Student Learning Outcomes
APPENDIX 3	PLANNING DAY: Memorandum
APPENDIX 4	READING DAY Memorandum
APPENDIX 5	DIALOG DAY: Agenda and Minutes
APPENDIX 6	Chart of Departmental Reports submitted & ASK Readers

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS (ON ASK WEBSITE [HTTP://CIS.NPC.EDU/ASK/](http://cis.npc.edu/ask/))

- Administrative Information Systems/Business
- Biology
- Computer Information Systems
- Cosmetology
- Early Childhood Development
- Emergency Medical Technology
- English
- Fire Science
- General Education Geology
- Humanities
- Industrial Maintenance and Operations
- Mathematics
- Nursing
- Social & Behavioral Science
- The Learning Cornerstone
- WACH (formerly WLD, ATO, BOC, & HQO)

OVERVIEW of the 2010 – 2011 ASSESSMENT CYCLE

The Assessment of Student Knowledge (ASK) subcommittee of the Instructional Council (IC) was formally established in May 2008 (Appendix 1).

During the 2010 academic year, the subcommittee met regularly via teleconference meetings, continued development of the assessment website, completed two required updates of its Assessment Academy project, and sponsored several activities designed to improve the assessment of student knowledge throughout the college.

After discussion by ASK and consultation with the VP of Learning & Student Services the committee decided to extend participation in the HLC Assessment Academy for an additional year. The project for the HLC Assessment Academy is establish the assessment of the General Education Program. The subcommittee's proposed student learning outcomes (SLO) for the General Education (GE) program were adopted by IC in December 2008 (appendix 2). ASK has continued to revise its plan for assessing the six learning outcomes of general education. In this area, the committee continued assessing effective communication and critical thinking with the English, Humanities, and Social and Behavioral Sciences departments. And ASK worked with the departments of Biology, Mathematics, and Social and Behavioral Sciences to initiate data collection in the areas of scientific inquiry and quantitative reasoning. ASK is very appreciative of those departments assisting with the General Education Assessment for the HLC Assessment Academy Project.

The assessment process at NPC begins with the development of assessment tools. Each department is asked to discuss & plan an Assessment of Student Learning project during October on "Planning Day." This year instead of bringing representatives together for a large gathering ASK decided to request each department to meet, review their report from the previous cycle, discuss, and develop a plan. ASK requested each department to submit a brief summary of their plan. Assessment instruments are collected according to their plan. Departmental members evaluate the student work collected during following spring semester. Most of the evaluation takes place on "Reading Day," when departmental members collectively read and discuss student work. Departments have about a month to then write and submit a report to ASK. This is followed by "Dialog Day." On Dialog Day faculty and other interested members of the college community meet to discuss the results derived from the individual departments and to share ideas about revising assessment tools and implementing curricular changes.

Figure 1 displays the general model for assessment along with the 2010-2011 dates for Reading Day and Dialog Day. This information was included in the Planning Day memo produced in Appendix 3. Materials related to Reading Day are in Appendix 4.

Each assessment report was read by at least two members of the ASK subcommittee (Table 1). In addition, copies of the report were posted on the ASK website so that those attending Dialog Day could review any or all submitted departmental reports prior to meeting. The assessment report includes a cover sheet

that indicates the “activity level” of the department’s assessment efforts,¹ a brief summary and analysis of the assessment data collected, and (ideally) recommendations for improvements in teaching strategies and data collection.

Dialog Day was well attended and resulted in productive discussion of learning outcomes with faculty members from across the college. The Dialog Day agenda and a report on the Dialog Day conversations are included in Appendix 5.

The ASK subcommittee notes that Northland Pioneer College continues to make progress in assessment in most areas. The departmental reports are generally focused and substantive, providing a baseline for developing strategies to improve student learning. Additional Departments submitted reports this year. However, there are still a few departments not participating.

The ASK subcommittee met in September and set the calendar for assessment activities for the next academic year. The assessment cycle will continue according to the following schedule:

Planning Day – October scheduled individually by departments with plan outlines due to ASK chair by October 31st.

Reading Day – February 10, 2012

Departmental Reports due by March 16, 2012

Dialogue Day – April 13, 2012 9:30 – 12:00 at SCC

¹ There are five levels:

Level I: The department assessment processes have been detailed and developed for use by faculty.

Level II: Data collection has been implemented.

Level III: Faculty, instructional leaders, and deans have analyzed the data.

Level IV: Faculty, instructional leaders, and deans have used the data to improve student academic achievement.

Level V: Data has been used to improve the assessment process.

NPC's GENERAL ASSESSMENT MODEL
2010-2011

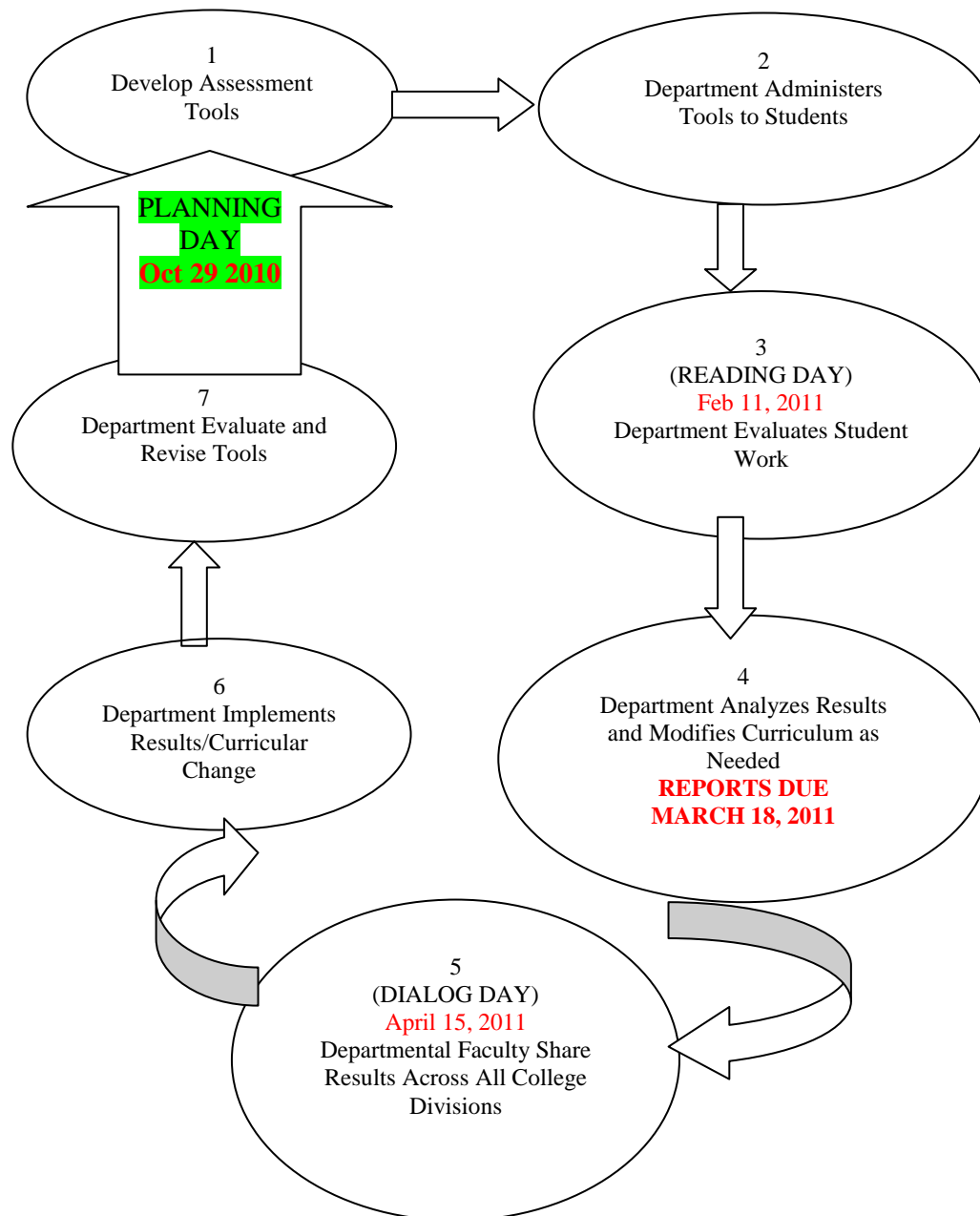


TABLE 1

Departmental Reports Received by ASK 2011

<u>Department reports:</u>	Department Chair	Planning Day Report	Reading Day Scheduled	Departmental Report Received
AIS/BUS	Hunter, Janet	Recd	Yes	X
BIO	Jacob, James	recd		X
Chemistry	Hodgkins, Tom			none
CIS	Seely, Doug	11-23		X
Community Education	Aceves, Loylin			none
Cosmetology	Robins, Charlotte			X
ECD	Endfield, Claude			X
EDU	Henderson, Eric			none
EMT	Wagoner, LB	recd		X
ENL	Goulet, Ron			X
FRS	Fisher, Don			X
General Education	Henderson, Eric	Adding quant & sci reasoning		X
Geology	Porch, Randy			X
Humanities	Solomonson, Mike	Cont crit inq & eff comm	yes	X
IMO /[ITP]	Keith, Kenny			X
MAT	Mack, Gary	recd	yes	X
Med Assistant				none
NUR	Williams, Nancy	recd		X
Soc/ Behavioral Sciences	Hassard, Andrew	in process – pretest on quant	yes	X
TLC	Jackson, Rickey	recd	yes	X
WACH (WLD ATO BOC, HQO)	Casey, Curt			X