Child Development Progress Report

Linking Course SLOs to Program SLOs & Core Competencies

The Child Development Department has begun to link its SLO’s to Program SLOs and Core Competencies. So far we have completed the following steps:

1. We have met as a Child Development Department to discuss the process and how to organize the work.
2. We have divided up the 36 courses between the three full-time faculty members so we can work on the courses in which we specialize.
3. We have completed work on several courses which are now linked with program SLOs and Core Competencies.
4. We have met with adjunct faculty to gain input on course content and SLO changes which need to be made.

The Child Development Department has come across several barriers during this process which we would like to address in this report.

Barriers:

1. The **Program** SLOs which were created previously were not based on content but on access to attaining work & transfer. We need to rewrite all of them to reflect **Program Content**. After beginning this process, we have now found this to be a time consuming and tedious process and it has gone much more slowly than expected.
2. There is a Child Development State model called the Curriculum Alignment Project (CAP) which has created Course SLOs for 8 of our core courses. The goal of CAP is to help make transfer between community colleges and 4-year universities smoother for students. Most community colleges and many 4-year universities have adopted CAP. **The CAP SLOs are not written in a measurable format and do not fit neatly with our current SLOs. We need to reformat them to make them more measurable while still maintaining the content of each CAP SLO.**
3. **Each CAP course has 5-8 SLOs, rather than 2-4 as our college suggests**. We have been working on examining & combining CAP SLOs to create 2-4 SBVC CD SLOs while maintaining the course SLO of CAP. This is very time consuming and we will not be finished with the process until next semester and they may not be approved by CAP until summer 2011. (For example, it took me 4 hours to analyze and rewrite SLOs for one course).
4. **The Child Development Department does not want to completely change our current SLOs to CAP SLOs until we receive approval from CAP**. Otherwise we may need to rewrite them again. **We would like administration at Valley College to understand that we will be changing 8 of our course SLOs within the next semester to CAP SLOs.**  We need to do this correctly and we cannot rush through the process.
5. Ultimately, changing our SLOs to CAP SLOs will affect our Program SLOs. We can write Program SLOs for the current needs of the program and college, but **Program SLOs may need to be revised within the next semester to fit with CAP SLOs & CAP Program SLOs.**
6. While many programs may have 10-15 courses, Child Development has **36 active courses**. We also have **8 certificates and 3 degrees**. Our CD Department went from 5 full-time faculty members to 3 within the last year and a half. We have a lot to do and fewer faculty members to do the work.

For now, the CD Department is submitting the SLOs using the current and correct names of courses and programs. We have some changes in SLO content based on faculty revisions. We are submitting the Program SLOs with current names of Degrees and Certificates, but without revisions of SLO content. **When we receive approval from CAP, and after we have completed the complete analysis of our CD Program from CAP, we will revise the Program SLOs to reflect Program Content and CAP recommendations.** I have also attached two of our courses which have been linked with Program SLOs and Core Competencies to the Instruction Office along with our SLOs.