

A View from the TOP

The Outcomes Program (TOP) at Waubonsee Community College

June 1, 2008

Volume 2, Issue 2

Coming in Fall 2008

Design your own scantron forms for tests, surveys and rubrics.

A MEASURE of Success: Adapting Program Review to Facilitate Continuous Quality Improvement

On April 14, Dr. Heather LaCost, Assistant Professor of Psychology; Suzette Long, Dean for Business and Information Systems; Stacey Randall, Outcomes Coordinator; and Dr. Karen J. Stewart, Vice President of Quality and Strategic Development, presented at the Higher Learning Commission Annual Meeting in Chicago. Waubonsee's presentation focused on the college's revised program review process and the success of college programs in implementing quality improvement. The presentation focused on the work done in the Computer Information Systems (CIS) area through a Mentorlinks grant and in the Psychology department CIS faculty, students, alumni and administration.

Waubonsee Community College worked to enhance and strengthen its information systems technology program to better align with the education and training needs of area employers. The program included 62 courses, four degrees, and 20 certificates in the areas of computer information systems, microcomputer systems, networking and security, and World Wide Web/Internet. In addition to revamping the curriculum, Waubonsee increased its relevance by building and leveraging relationships with the local Information Technology (IT) industry.

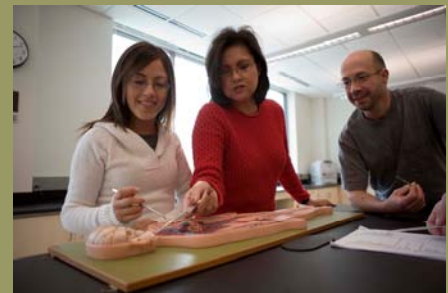
The Psychology department is utilizing the Curriculum Mapping portion of WEAVEonline, the college's data management system, to find areas of strength and weakness in their curriculum. They used the American Psychological Association guidelines as a starting point and adapted the guidelines to their program. They have crafted program outcomes and are now ready to determine how to collect data.

For more information on either of these programs, or on program review at the college, call ext. 2TOP (2867) or visit our Web site at http://top.waubonsee.edu/program_review.php.

Aligning the TOP MEASURE

Do you assess critical thinking in your courses? Communication skills? Problem-solving? If so, then you should join the TOP Team in the fall as we work together to align the TOP MEASURE with assessment in general education courses.

For more information, contact Stacey Randall, Outcomes Coordinator, at ext. 2TOP (2867).



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**Looking for new ideas from faculty?
Here are some new Outcomes Strategies:**

- Flash/Web Design
- Biology
- English 101 & 102 Portfolios
- Communications
- Foreign Language-Spanish
- Therapeutic Massage
- Interpreter Training
- Economics
- New methods for online vs. face-to-face outcomes assessment



If you are interested in learning more about outcomes or developing outcomes strategies for your course or program, please contact us at 2TOP (2867).

We will schedule a one-on-one consultation and provide you with resources to support the work you are already doing in your classroom.

We're on the Web! Visit our Web site at <http://top.waubonsee.edu>

**12th Annual Community College Assessment Fair
"Organic Assessment: A Faculty-Driven Initiative"**

The 12th Annual Community College Assessment Fair was hosted by Waubonsee Community College on March 13-14, 2008. Attendees included 101 individuals, representing 27 colleges across the state and the Illinois Community College Board. The conference offered 16 concurrent sessions with topics varying from assessment tips and techniques to sharing institutional stories.

Comments from conference attendees highlighted the quality of the keynote speaker, Dr. Swarup Wood, Professor of Chemistry at California State University Monterey Bay, and the concurrent sessions as the most valuable feature of the conference.

Almost 90% of the attendees who completed the conference evaluation believed that the conference was a valuable networking experience for them. One person noted that, "Networking is great because of the local draw. Also because it is easy to attend and extremely inexpensive, a wide-variety of people can attend. . ."

TOP would like to thank all of the faculty, staff and administrators at the college who helped to make the conference a success! Joliet Junior College will host the conference in 2009. Watch your e-mail for more information about the conference this fall!

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