May 11, 2011

The Leeward Community College Faculty Senate recognizes and supports the critical role of community college faculty in advancing the college's commitment to student learning.

To promote an environment that is dedicated to student learning, the Faculty Senate supports the appropriate use of data-driven decision making in the classroom and as an institution. As part of this effort, faculty are expected to engage in the ongoing assessment of student learning.

The assessment of student learning includes faculty's establishment of appropriate student learning outcomes and assessment measures, a process for analysis of results, and the use of such results to inform instructional practice.

The Faculty Senate recognizes that appropriate student learning outcomes and measures are primarily the responsibility of the faculty who possess expertise in their professions and content areas.

The Faculty Senate encourages faculty to:

- Establish learning outcomes that reflect what students are able to do by performing tasks that demonstrate meaningful application of essential knowledge and skills upon course completion.

- Use multiple assessment measures that produce meaningful data that faculty can use to guide decisions on instructional practice – both during and at the end of a course.

- Collect assessment data on all student learning outcomes for each section over a period of time to ensure comprehensive analysis of the course.

- Collaborate with colleagues to analyze assessment data, along with other data deemed appropriate, in order to select what changes to make, if any, to improve student learning and teaching.
The Faculty Senate acknowledges that the primary user of the assessment process is the faculty. While results of course assessment are also used as part of a larger assessment of degree programs (e.g., the program review process) and also institutional effectiveness, its primary purpose is as a professional tool for data-driven decision making and student learning. The faculty member is not assessed in the process.

The Faculty Senate encourages all faculty to collaborate with colleagues and designated assessment coordinators as needed to develop, refine, and make use of the assessment process.

The Faculty Senate acknowledges the institutional needs of reporting course assessment data and encourages all faculty to work with the college’s designated assessment coordinators to report data in a timely manner.

By participating in the ongoing assessment of student learning, Leeward Community College faculty can help the college further its commitment to student learning.

Approved by vote of the Leeward CC Faculty Senate on May 11, 2011

Paul Lococo
Faculty Senate Chair