

Minutes  
QEP Committee  
October 10, 2005

Present:

Ellen Weed

Michelle Adkerson

Ken Morlino

Faye Jones

Janusz Polanowski

Jim Formosa

Donna Whitehouse

Linda Lyle

1. The analysis of the CCTST was distributed. There are five subscales:

- a. Analysis
- b. Inference
- c. Evaluation
- d. Induction
- e. Deduction

Janusz then recommended that ten critical thinking skills be emphasized since they correlate strongly with the CCTST:

- Distinguishing between verifiable facts and value claims
- Distinguishing relevant from irrelevant information, claims, or reasons
- Determining the factual accuracy of a statement
- Determining the credibility of a source
- Identifying ambiguous claims or arguments
- Identifying unstated assumptions
- Detecting bias
- Identifying logical fallacies
- Recognizing logical inconsistencies in a line of reasoning
- Determining the strength of an argument or claim

Janusz will now look at the CCTST again and connect individual items with the ten skills.

2. Dates will be set up so that divisions can take the CCTST as a group. Janusz will hold a short informational session with each division before taking the test to explain the items and their correlation to the ten skills.
3. More than 40 faculty members have signed up for the Critical Thinking Conference at Columbia State Community College. Committee members were urged to look for speakers who might be good for our campus as well as ideas for our QEP.
4. Reports from the committees:
  - a. Assessment: Sections of ENGL 1010 were randomly chosen by Institutional Research to take the CCTDI. All sections have either taken the inventory or are in the process of doing so.

- b. Student Support: A website has been developed, although it is not yet linked. Linda has been searching for good links to other sites. The committee is also in the process of coming up with ideas for a student orientation module.
- c. Implementation: This committee plans to begin working after the Columbia State conference. Michelle is using a WebCT shell in order to facilitate meeting with her group.
- d. Campus Education: A website is under way. There are plans to include latest news, research, assessment information, etc. There was a discussion on how to insure that faculty members would use the site.
- e. Best Practices: A great deal of research has been done. Janusz and Jim will divide up the academic areas; the committee will approve the findings.

The next meeting will be November 14 at 2:30.