

FCCC Resolution regarding "Strengthened Campus-Based Assessment"  
April 3, 2004

WHEREAS, the Faculty Council of Community Colleges appreciates System Administration's recognition of the legitimate role of faculty, students and administration in the development of a response to the Board of Trustees' resolution of June 17, 2003, and

WHEREAS, System Administration has indicated it will accept "strengthened campus-based assessment" which substantially modifies the previous versions of system-wide assessment which the faculty of the community colleges has overwhelmingly rejected, and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Council of Community Colleges accepts the "Proposed Revisions" to the GEAR "Review Process Guidelines" dated Spring 2004 and the accompanying "Summary of Strengthened Campus-Based Assessment" with the following modifications:

1. The costs of the purchase, implementation, and scoring of nationally-normed measures—as well as for the NSSE or CCSSE—should be paid for by System Administration for state-operated/funded institutions and community colleges, based on sample size of up to 20% of the undergraduate student body on a three-year cycle.
2. System Administration will provide funding commensurate to funding provided for nationally-normed measures for creating, administering, norming, and reviewing locally developed instruments that measure learning outcomes in any of the three areas (both instruments that are intended to correlate with nationally-normed measures and those intended to be reviewed and approved by the GEAR group.)
3. GEAR will rely on discipline-based peer review panels which will have equal representation from the community colleges and the state-operated institutions and whose members will be selected by SUNY governance bodies in collaboration with GEAR.
4. The standards and rubrics developed by the GEAR discipline panels of faculty in mathematics and written communications shall be submitted to the SUNY campus faculty in those disciplines for their approval before they are used by GEAR to approve locally developed instruments in those areas.
5. The current campus-based assessment of critical thinking be allowed to proceed without the appointment of a GEAR discipline panel until a collection of standards and rubrics has emerged from the campuses, at which time a GEAR discipline panel will be formed to study the collection, formulate standards and rubrics therefrom, and submit them to SUNY campus faculty for their approval before they are used by GEAR to approve campus assessment plans in this area.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Council of Community Colleges accepts “strengthened campus-based assessment” with the modifications stated above.