

LEARNING OUTCOMES PILOT PROJECT

PURPOSE: Explore logistics of learning outcomes assessment at the individual student level using LMS (MOODLE) for data collection.

JUSTIFICATION OF NEED: Accreditation Standard I.B.6 requires that colleges disaggregate and analyze learning outcomes for subpopulations of students. Fulfilling I.B.6 necessitates collecting and storing learning outcomes attainment data for individual students. Within its GradeBook, our campus' LMS has Outcomes functionality for this data collection. Daphne Dionisio had this functionality activated for GCC MOODLE sites.

DESCRIPTION OF PILOT WORK

FIRST HALF Daphne Dionisio and Mark Ragonig will create a test environment in MOODLE (i.e. a fake semester of fake instructor sites populated with fake student IDs). This will involve creating a template that will contain six SLO data entry columns in the GradeBook using the Met/InDev/NotMet scale. All fake sites will automatically have these SLO data entry columns because the sites will be generated from the template. Fake data will be entered.

SECOND HALF Automate the transfer of the data (by XML) into the Learning Outcomes database. David Yamamoto will need to create a table in the Learning Outcomes database to receive this data.

UPDATE

FIRST HALF Completed on December 14, 2015.

Daphne and Mark were also able to figure out how to insert a data column into the GradeBook that will automatically contain the data for the Semester and Year.

SECOND HALF XML data transfer will require the time and effort of Afsaneh Abyari from ITS. Among the ITS staff, she knows how to carry out XML data transfers. She normally does this for our PeopleSoft ERP. Simon Mirzaian says it will take considerable time and effort for her to figure out and develop processes for how to transfer data from MOODLE to the Learning Outcomes database. *Since she is currently very busy working on 5 major IT projects, neither Marc Drescher nor Simon can authorize her to spend time on the data transfer.* Simon strongly recommends that the college switch to a readymade database that easily accepts individual student data because it will already have mechanisms that ITS can easily implement to move data from a gradebook to the database. Further, Simon prefers a cloud-based database rather than a GCC-hosted one since the hosted kind requires ITS staff to maintain it while the cloud kind uses off-site technicians.

ITS cannot pursue the automated data transfer. Daphne could manually transfer it by exporting data as Excel files and importing into the Learning Outcomes database but that is not worth doing because it would never be practical to manually do this across campus for all real instructors sites.

NEXT STEPS

- Daphne will be taking a course on XML that will be completed in June 2016. She can help explore the XML transfer of data.
- Daphne and Mark still need to figure out how to import data containing the Ticket Number or (Course Numbers and Course Section Numbers).
- Ask David Yamamoto to create a test table in the Learning Outcomes database.