**TAP Framework Implementation Review Committee (FIRC)**

**Friday, October 13, 2017--10:00 a.m. to Noon**

**61 Woodland Street, Room 305**

**Hartford, CT**

**Present:**  E. Steeves (co-chair, HCC), G. Gelburd (co-chair, ECSU), G. Adamek (NCC), M. Coach (ACC), F. Coan (TXCC), B. DeVito (CCC), L. Doninger (GCC), N. Esposito (MCC), M. Jackson (CCSU), P. Raymond (MXCC), J. Seabury(NVCC) S. Selke (TRCC), D. Weiss (SCSU)

**Present Non-Voting:** M. Buccilli (GCC)

**Teleconferencing:** P. Boily (WCSU), B. Donohue-Lynch (QVCC), R. MacDonald (COSC)

**Absent:** S. Marcelynas (SCSU), representative from NWCC

**Call to Order:** E. Steeves called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Minutes of 9/8/2017:** Approved

**Campus Updates**

**ACC:** Working on lists of courses for Global and Creativity.

**CCC:** Senate has endorsed the Global and Creativity course lists.

**CCSU:** M. Jackson has been and will be meeting with “key players.”

**COSC:** Is piloting assessment this semester.

**ECSU:** G. Gelburd has been and will be meeting with people involved in student services and academic assessment. The following statement was drafted by the Office of the Provost and the Assessment Coordinator:

*Eastern Connecticut State University supports the effort of FIRC to assess the effectiveness of the TAP program. We recommend that these measures focus on graduation rates, time to graduation, and credits to graduation – the hallmarks of the TAP program, comparing these to similar statistics for non-traditional students.*

*The assessment of student learning outcomes resides at each College and University. Other assessment requests, if any, related to student learning outcomes should be referred to the BOR Academic Affairs committee and/or BOR Assessment Committee.*

**GCC:** Has added classes to the schedule in response to the numbers of TAP students enrolled in certain pathways (e.g., CJ, English). Will be adding a course to the Global list. Assessing Social Phenomena and Aesthetic Dimensions this semester. Is trying to devise means to get TAP students to identity their transfer institution destination and communicate student information to the pertinent institution.

**HCC:** Brainstorming ways to access and transfer student academic records among institutions until (one hopes) Degree Works can be used to do so.

**MCC:** Trying to mobilize a TAP Task Force. Is assessing Social Phenomena this semester. In the process of assembling lists of courses for Global and Creativity.

**MXCC:** Has shrunk the size of its assessment group and simplified the assessment process and is collecting student artifacts this term.

**NVCC:** Has 295 TAP students, including eighty-five in Psychology. Collecting artifacts for Scientific Reasoning and Aesthetic Dimensions. The Senate has vetted courses for Global and Creativity.

**NWCC:** Has seceded from the CSCU system (perhaps wisely so under the circumstances), been devoured by a rogue black hole, or went down with the *Titanic*. In event, no report as usual.

**NCC:** Has approximately 200 TAP students and working on ways to advise them. The General Education Committee is doing double-duty as the TAP Task Force. The lists of courses for Global and Creativity are ready to be submitted to governance.

**QVCC:** Has over ninety TAP students.

**SCSU:** Is putting systems into place to assist TAP transfer students and those who need to track TAP and work with these students.

**TRCC:** Has 223 TAP students. Is working on identifying additional Global and Creativity courses and will send list of same to Curriculum Committee by October 20.

**TXCC:** Nothing new. Despite leadership changes, the work continues at a steady pace.

**WCSU:** P. Boily will be meeting with key players in the near future.

**TAP Co-Managers’ Report (C. Barrington)**

**•** Over 2700 students are enrolled in TAP programs system-wide.

**•** Are working with registrars and advisors, and especially those at the CSUs and COSC, who will be seeing an influx of TAP students. The co-managers have provided student directory information, numbers of TAP students broken down by pathway, and a form letter to be mailed to TAP students at the community colleges. They’ll be sending registrar and admissions staff links to TAP guidebooks.

• Will be scheduling a TAP advising workshop on each CSCU campus.

**•** Creative writing courses may now be vetted for the Creativity category. For vetting courses, please complete and return the appropriate form, which may be accessed by clicking on the TAP link.

**•** Have settled on a common format for TAP program sheets. These will be housed on the TAP website, with updates marked in red and each sheet dated. The links to the program sheets will not change.

• Met with the Academic Council yesterday to advocate for the need to identify somebody on each CSCU campus as the TAP guru and offer compensation to that person to coordinate TAP implementation, oversight, and updates.

• Will be reconvening the TAP work groups at the end of the month. Most groups will probably only need to meet once (although it may be dangerous for some groups to meet at all unless Governor Malloy calls out the National Guard to keep order) and should be able to complete whatever additional work they need to complete via email or telephone.

**TAP Meet and Greet:** From late October through mid- November, GCC will be hosting a series of four meetings with TAP students. Students will be grouped by meta-major (or meta-pathway) and will meet with pertinent departmental chairs and TAP overseers. In addition, faculty from the CSUs have been invited to attend and participate. Phase II, if there is a Phase II, might include a visit to SCSU, the transfer destination for the large majority of GCC TAP students.

**Communication:** It seems that every campus is having problems disseminating information about TAP to all the administrators, faculty, and staff who need to be informed about TAP. Each school has a unique culture and administrative and governance structure, and each will probably need to implement a unique approach to improving the flow of TAP information. Appointing a dedicated TAP coordinator/overseer/sachem on each campus would assist greatly in achieving this goal.

**Assessment:** The TAP FIRC co-chairs distributed hard copies of a General Education assessment survey proposed by the Assessment Council. The co-chairs will email this document to all FIRC representatives. In brief, the Council is requesting that the TAP FIRC spearhead the effort to collect information about General Education assessment on all CSCU campuses. A discussion ensued, with some FIRC representatives having no objection this request while others questioning the role of the TAP FIRC in General Education, as opposed to TAP, assessment. The following motion was made:

*Although General Education assessment lies beyond the bailiwick of the TAP-FIRC, each FIRC representative will forward the General Education Assessment Survey to the appropriate parties on his or her campus and facilitate the completion and return of said survey to the TAP-FIRC co-chairs no later than December 1.*

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Those campuses that have yet to submit their TAP assessment schedule and rubrics (if using rubrics other than those created by the TAP Framework discipline work groups) should do so as soon as possible.

**Auxiliary Pathways:** Should students be able to switch from a particular TAP degree program to some different major once they reach a four-year institution? No TAP policy prohibits this. Moreover, most TAP pathways and baccalaureate degrees are flexible enough to allow students to change from a given major to at least one other major without losing credits or having to take a large number of additional courses. The co-managers are planning to post these other degree options, including course requirements, on the TAP website. The Academic and Student Affairs Committee likes the idea. Most of those present seemed to favor the proposal as well. The co-managers welcome additional feedback.

**Next TAP FIRC Meeting:**  November 3, 2017, 10:00 a.m.—Noon, 61 Woodland Street, Hartford, Room 207.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francis M. Coan