In the abbreviated self-study report that follows, we have addressed the various concerns raised in the 2008 HLC Report (Appendix A3: HLC Report 2008). In the table below, we present an overview of the key changes implemented in response to HLC’s concerns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HLC’s Concern</th>
<th>UWSP’s Response</th>
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| (1) Program Assessment efforts were “uneven” and campus culture did not embrace assessment as an important campus-wide initiative. | (1) Initiated a fundamental revision of program assessment:  
  • visited each department, identified needs, made recommendations;  
  • designed a series of workshops responding to identified needs and to support a comprehensive revision to program assessment (Assessment Academy);  
  • required all departments to submit Program Learning Outcomes, Curriculum Maps, and Assessment Plans;  
  • revised UWSP Handbook to reflect new approach to assessment. |
| (2) The General Degree Requirements were found to be credit-intensive, not well understood nor valued, and not based on learning outcomes. | (2) Carried out a six-step process to create a new General Education Program:  
  • Step 1: Mission Statement (May 2008)  
  • Step 2: Goals & Program Outcomes (February 2009)  
  • Step 3: Model & Degree Types (April 2009)  
  • Step 4: Structural Components & Measurable Learning Outcomes (April 2010)  
  • Step 5: Course & Instructor Criteria (April 2011)  
  • Step 6: Administration, Implementation, & Assessment (proposed, Fall 2011) |
| (3) Assessment of general education was lacking.                              | (3) Proposed assessment plan for general education based on:  
  • a continuous improvement model  
  • course portfolios  
  • faculty learning communities that engage faculty from across campus to share best practices. |
| (4) Faculty governance structures impeded effective assessment and management of general education. | (4) Revised Faculty Governance structure and processes:  
  • Merged responsibilities for curriculum and assessment in a new General Education Committee;  
  • Revised assessment report and department review self-study formats  
  • Synchronized reporting schedules for the Assessment Subcommittee and the Department Review Subcommittee based on a 5-year and 10-year cycle, respectively;  
  • Proposed new positions: Director of General Education and Assessment Coordinator |