

## SLO Narrative Kathy Sullivan, Child Development

### CHOOSE IMPROVEMENT

The Child 16 Practicum course had been bothering me for some time. I updated the self-evaluation and supervising teacher evaluation forms, but realized there was much more work to do.

### TAKE STOCK

After attending an SLO training 4 years ago, I realized I didn't have a useful evaluation tool for Practicum. Students who completed the hours of lab, activities, supervising teacher evaluation and self evaluation satisfactorily passed the class. One of the issues was how did this really demonstrate what the student would know, do or be? How did this connect to the real world of teaching young children?

### NORM STUDENT OUTCOMES

I decided to implement a portfolio as the final assessment. The portfolio would be tied to the National Association for the Education of Young Children's (NAEYC) Teaching Standards. These would serve as the basis for our SLOs.

### IDENTIFY IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIES

I used the NAEYC standards to plan the portfolio, and made sure the assignments showed evidence of meeting the standards. The NAEYC standards also seemed to fit with what was being proposed as college wide standards, so it seemed I was on the right track. I implemented the portfolio.

### MAKE IMPROVEMENT AND EVALUATE

As the first portfolio semester rolled along I realized I needed a checklist for the students, so I devised one, gave it to the students and used it for the presentation/grading sheet. During portfolio presentations, I realized I had missed some activities/assignments so I added those for next semester. At the end of the second semester I realized the checklist was woefully inadequate. While some students had completed exemplary work many were floundering. Lastly I realized the point system I was using didn't mesh well with the portfolio. I decided to implement a rubric to better assess student learning outcomes.

### BUILD INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

The rubric was shared with my colleague Adrienne Webster who took over the Practicum class. She used it the first semester and made some changes to the rubric adding details. Adrienne is now using the Standards to structure class lectures. She will continue to use and refine this format to evaluate student success.

### NEXT STEPS

We will continue to plan expanding the portfolio to eventually be the capstone evaluation for the Child Development AS degree. Currently we are working on the internship piece for the Career Tools for Excellence course which will eventually help to link all of our courses to the NAEYC Standards via our SLOs for each course.