Phil & Tom’s Excellent Adventure

or How we spent our summer vacation
In October
In Long Beach
At a WASC Program Review Workshop

Our Take-Away Points:

- Reframing PR process: “Cog-in-a-machine” rule-driven PR vs. purpose-driven PR
- Further clarification of the distinction between PR and assessment
- Affirmation of our basic departmental self-study practices (but need to simplify)
- Specific ideas for inclusion in self-study
- Changes to our PR process: External review and MOU/Action Plan

“Outcome-Oriented PR” is Purposeful, Goal-Directed PR

What data/evidence do you need to see to understand program quality?

PR involves “Assessment”...

... and much else.
Simplicity and Faculty Fatigue

“Don’t substitute elaborate process for goal-orientation”

- Great headway in simplifying our assessment expectations
- We need to similarly simplify the program review process and self-report template

Self-study, cont.

Sample results to analyze

- Student learning results (academic, co-curricular)
- Retention/graduation rates
- Licensure, placement rates
- Enrollment trends
- Student satisfaction with support services
- Alumni achievements
- Faculty grants, research, scholarship, awards
- Feedback from external constituencies
  - [e.g., employers, peer reviewers, community agencies, specialized accreditors, professional organizations]

Ideas for Self-Study

Evidence of Quality and Effectiveness:

(Institution-specific)

- Curriculum [content, sequencing, currency, depth, rigor, breadth, scheduling, syllabi, delivery modalities, etc.]
- Student learning and success
- Co-curricular integration
- Assessment practices
- Learning environment & support
- Student profile
- Faculty credentials & performance
- Research, grants, recognition, awards

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The Program Review Process

Main components of PR process:

- Self-Study
  - External Review
  - Internal Review
  - Recommendations for Improvement
  - Program Response
- MOU = Final Results
- Action Plan – Implementation

Annual Assessment Cycle

Goal (PLG)  
PPI Feedback  
Collect & Analyze  
Program Changes  
Discuss & Evaluate  
Report
6-Year Program Review Cycle

Diagram:
- External Review
- Internal Review (PRC)
- Program Self-Study
- Action Plan (MOU)
- Assessment Cycle

MOU
- Agreement between program/division and institution (or dept & division)
  - Clear expectations
  - Time line
  - Resources committed
- Used for planning & budgeting at multiple levels in institution
- Accountability for implementation