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**Product Evaluation**

**Syllabus Matrix**

Fourteen individuals attended the three-day (September 12-14, 2019) ECPC Doctoral Student Institute at Avon Old Farms Hotel in Avon, Connecticut. The participants were asked to evaluate the quality, relevance, and usefulness of five products. This summary pertains to one of those documents, the *Syllabus Matrix*. The Syllabus Matrix is a tool that is designed to support Doctoral Students and IHE faculty to create and re-design exisiting syllabi to align with the DEC Recommended Practices and personnel standards. Seven (7) participants completed the product evaluation (50.0% response rate).

*Table 1. Quality: Substance and Communication (n= 7)*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Quality**  | **SD** | **D** | **N** | **A** | **SA** | **N/A** | **M** | **STD** |
| **Substance:** The product’s content reflects evidence of conceptual soundness and quality, grounded in recent scientific evidence, legislation, policy, or accepted professional practice.  | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 5 | -- | 4.71 | 0.49 |
| **Communication:** The product’s content is presented in such a way so as to be clearly understood, as evidenced by being well-organized, free of editorial errors, and appropriately formatted.  | -- | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | -- | 3.14 | 1.21 |

***Note:*** *SD = Strongly Disagree, D = Disagree, N= Neutral, A = Agree, SA = Strongly Agree, N/A = Not Applicable, M = Mean, STD = Standard Deviation*

**Additional comments related to the quality of the product:**

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| * I think these are clear and communicated well to people that are familiar with standards, but may be confusing to professionals in other content areas.
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| * Needs to be organized one way. i.e. choose one set of standards or DEC RPs to be organized and then crosswalk/ref to associated standards.
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| * Would love alignment with CAEP standards. A lot of grammatical errors in the hover boxes.
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Table 2. *Relevance: Needs, Pertinence & Reach (n = 7)*

| **Relevance** | **SD** | **D** | **N** | **A** | **SA** | **N/A** | **M** | **STD** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Need:** The product attempts to solve an important problem or deal with a critical issue.  | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 5 | -- | 4.71 | 0.49 |
| **Pertinence:** The product addresses a problem or issue recognized as important by the target audience(s).  | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 6 | -- | 4.86 | 0.38 |
| **Reach:** The product’s content is applicable to diverse segments of the target audience(s).  | -- | -- | -- | 2 | 5 | -- | 4.71 | 0.49 |

***Note:*** *SD = Strongly Disagree, D = Disagree, N= Neutral, A = Agree, SA = Strongly Agree, N/A = Not Applicable, M = Mean, STD = Standard Deviation*

**Additional comments related to the relevance of the product:**

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| * Fantastic attempt to address the issue of alignment, but not easily navigated.
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| * I love that it includes NAEYC standards and the opportunity to crosswalk with cross-disciplinary and state standards.
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Table 3. *Usefulness: Ease & Suitability (n = 7)*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Usefulness** | **SD** | **D** | **N** | **A** | **SA** | **N/A** | **M** | **STD** |
| **Ease:** The product addresses a problem or issue in an easily understood way, with directions or guidance regarding how the content can be used to address the problem or issue.  | -- | 2 | -- | 4 | 1 | -- | 3.57 | 1.13 |
| **Suitability:** The product provides the target audience(s) with information or resources that can be used again or in different ways to address the problem or issue.  | -- | -- | 1 | 2 | 4 | -- | 4.43 | 0.79 |

***Note:*** *SD = Strongly Disagree, D = Disagree, N= Neutral, A = Agree, SA = Strongly Agree, N/A = Not Applicable, M = Mean, STD = Standard Deviation*

**Additional comments related to the usefulness of the product:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
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| --- |
| * Agree with the points brought to the group.
* Felt difficult for syllabi review but very useful to see gaps in programs. Would be extremely useful in focusing on specific course, but not easily inputted to evaluation. Easier to use the visual crosswalk for courses/SLOs objectives.
* For hybrid and online ECDE/EI programs, it would be useful or create a Resource Book. I would also create a tool with CAEP -> DEC "standards" as many universities must align with CAEP.
* It would be nice if this was interactive -> 1. Faculty considers a syllabus component 2. Select associated DEC RP -> this pops up the corresponding standards from least specific to most specific 3. Once this is complete, a report is populated that clearly demonstrates gaps.
* LOVE this product and really believe this will be beneficial for a variety of purposes - program and course development.
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**Other comments:**

None