

Assessment Council Meeting
Wednesday, February 22, 2006
2:30-3:45 p.m.
Bogle Conference Room

Present: Aimee Ash, Angela Becker, Kelly Brown, Sharon Calhoon (chair), Dmitriy Chulkov, Mary Hansen, Nadene Keene, Donna McLean, Sue Ridlen, Chris Rivers, Kathy Ross, Ellen Sigler, Robin Symonds, Earl Wysong, Chris Rivers, Marcia Andersen (secretarial support)

Absent: Lori Collins, Scott Jones, Gail MacKay, Allen Safianow (sabbatical), Sue Hendricks, Bridget Whitmore

Approval of Minutes

Aimee Ash made a motion to approve the minutes of November 16, 2005; seconded by Angie Becker; minutes were approved (15-yes, 0-no).

Program Reports Subcommittee

Angie Becker reported ten assessment reports have been received and reviewed. The Program Reports Committee either split into pairs or reviewed each report individually and then paired up to discuss the outcomes.

Reports from Departments on Status of Assessment Activities

Division of Education, Ellen Sigler

Adapting the NCATE format for assessment. They are working more on assessment on materials across the curriculum to understand trends.

School of Business, Dmitriy Chulkov

Currently assessing business (rather than gen ed) outcomes this year, using a survey and national tests. Each core course faculty member collects data on 3 – 4 outcomes, usually defined as % correct answers to specific exam questions, if students are not reaching the desired level, the faculty suggest changes in the curriculum

School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Kelly Brown

Kelly reported they were moving slowly because of the recent addition of the new Dean of SPSC and hiring of new faculty. No plan or report has been turned in.

Mathematics Assessment Coordinator, Mary Hansen

Math is continuing to collect data and is using the new assessment plan this time, though the report has not yet been turned in. Concerns about disseminating the information from assessment in such a way as to protect student privacy.

Biology, Chemistry, Computer Information Systems, Robin Symonds

Biology seems to be at a standstill and has asked to meet with Sharon Calhoon on April 28, 2006 for guidance. [Note to council: this meeting has been moved up to March 24]

Graduating chemistry students and intro chem. Students will take a nationally-normed test.

Computer Information Systems

There has been limited involvement in collecting data. The CIS program is being dissolved and replaced by Informatics, perhaps as early as this fall.

Biological & Physical Sciences

Little or no assessment activity. Sharon will call Bob Roales to offer help.

Director of Writing, Nadene Keene

The ETS in English Literature will be given in March to graduating seniors. The test will be online and has been ordered.

Earl Wysong

The sociology department is collecting data. They have 11 goals from their national organization (ASA), are operationalizing some each year. Currently are collecting data in the theory and the research methods courses.

Humanities, Sue Ridlen

A faculty group is revising the Humanities plan, working with Sharon. FINA major and minor may be coming, which will affect this major. May decide to use portfolios.

Communication Arts Assessment Coordinator, Donna McLean

There were major revisions to the curriculum in the fall. Despite having many new faculty and several searches going on, they are collecting data on 1 goal now in the Intro to the Major course; hope to collect data in 2 upper-level courses.

Psychology Assessment Coordinator, Angie Becker

Continuing to write outcomes and components; collecting data on 2 goals. Are switching from ETS to ACAT because ETS was not giving normative info in a timely manner. Would like help from CTLA when they sit down to look at the materials they are collecting (developing rubrics, calibrating scoring acc to the rubric).

Student Activities, Aimee Ash

Finished the plan, but have not collected data. Obtained leadership outcome surveys from Sharon, but have not used them yet.

Information Technology, Chris Rivers

IT had a re orientation meeting with Carl Pennington to look for new goals for measuring. The IT survey of the campus will be coming out in mid-March.

Concern about how quickly plans are due. Sharon offered to meet with anyone that would like help or guidance, and asked if the council wants to consider changing when plans are due. Council advised that the deadline should remain March 31.

NSSE

Sharon was on the agenda for the Faculty Senate but due to time was unable to speak. The NSSE is taken every other year by freshman and seniors. Students received an email inviting them to participate from Chancellor Person, with reminder emails from Sarah Hawkins. Response rate as of the date of the meeting was 19%.

Upcoming Assessment Town Hall for Faculty

The Assessment Town Hall for faculty is Monday, March 6, at 2:30. Ellen told the committee Julie Saam will present an e-portfolio or if she is unavailable Shirley Aamidor will fill in for her. Ellen will discuss information from the assessment reports. Sharon will present NSSE data from 2001-2005.

Symonds asked that we remind the faculty that assessment is important to re-accreditation. He also stated that the faculty wanted to where we stand with regard to accreditation standards and assessment of student learning. Council asked the timeline, which is spring 2008 for the self-study and spring 2009 for the site visit by peer evaluators.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35p.m.