

Report of Activities for the Fall, 2008 Semester

University Assessment Committee

January 12, 2009

Submitted to: Doğan Çömez, President of the NDSU University Senate
Dr. R. Craig Schnell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Members of the University Assessment Committee

Submitted by: Bob Harrold, Chair, University Assessment Committee

Members of the University Assessment Committee (UAC) include:

Bakr Aly Ahmed (E&A), John Bitzan (Business), Clare Carlson (Student Government), Doğan Çömez (Liaison from the Senate Executive Committee), Ed Deckard (A,FS, NR), Myron Eighmy (HNES), Carolyn Grygiel (Graduate School), Bob Harrold (Accreditation and Assessment), Abram Jackson (Student Government), Bunnie Johnson-Messelt (Student Affairs), Ken Magel (Sci & Math), Debb Pankow (NDSU Extension), Larry Peterson (General Education), David Scott (Pharm, Nursing & Allied Sci), Bill Slanger (Institutional Research and Analysis and VPAA).

Meetings Held: Meetings of the UAC were held on September 10, October 8, November 5, and November 26, 2008.

Reviews of Assessment Reports: During the period from May 14 through December 31, 2008, a total of 24 assessment reports were received and reviews completed.

During the 2007 – 2008 academic year, the members of the UAC requested that all reviews include a modified format to provide condensed information to academic units. That format includes a bulleted list of up to five strengths of the report and no more than three aspects for strengthening the assessment activities of the program. In addition, the members requested that a chart be included for visualization of the unit's recent evaluations with the university average and the average for the top 25% of reports shown for comparison. That information has been included in the reports reviewed during this period,

Reminders continue to be sent to academic programs having assessment reports that have not been received by the unit's self-selected reporting date.

Major activities of the UAC:

- The University-wide Assessment Plan Subcommittee (David Scott, Subcommittee Chair, Ken Magel, Bakr Aly Ahmed, Bunnie Johnson-Messelt, Debb Pankow, Doğan Çömez, and Bob Harrold) have discussed the development of a comprehensive assessment plan that would be university-wide. Draft documents are edited on-line.
- The members of the Communication and Training Subcommittee (John Bitzan, Ed Deckard, Larry Peterson, Bill Slanger, and Bob Harrold) have met to discuss opportunities to facilitate the understanding of assessment of student learning throughout our campus. An assessment theme for a Pedagogical Luncheon in March is in the early stages of planning.

Meetings with faculty from two academic departments to discuss assessment activities were completed during this period and one college-level meeting was planned. Conversations were held with four units in Student Affairs to learn about their assessment activities and their use of specialized software.

Each subcommittee will continue activities through the Spring Semester.

Spring, 2009 Semester:

Four meetings have been scheduled for the current semester.