

University Assessment Committee
Minutes of the meeting of Friday, October 30, 2009
8:00 a.m. in the Mandan Room in the Memorial Union

Members present: Bakr Aly Ahmed, John Bitzan, Myron Eighmy, Carolyn Grygiel, Bob Harrold, Abram Jackman, Bunnie Johnson-Messelt, Mark Meister, Debb Pankow, Larry Peterson

Bob Harrold called the meeting to order at 8:05 am. The minutes from the meeting of October 9 were approved as submitted. There were no corrections or updates to the proposed agenda.

There were no announcements from members of the committee and there is no progress to report on subcommittees. Bob will try to get them moving.

Bunnie made a presentation about StudentVoice, a national software program created by students. StudentVoice is connected with NAPSA and other institutions that use it are very positive about it. Bunnie is the campus liaison for the program. NDSU brought in a trainer in fall 2008 to present a workshop on how to use this software to help them with assessment. About 60% of Student Affairs departments are using this software for assessment. Their goal for the year is to get the rest of the departments to use it. Each department has its own StudentVoice site. They use PDAs and iPod Touches for entering data, for example, random surveys of students standing in line at Bison Connections. StudentVoice also helps them with constructing and distributing surveys. NDSU will be piloting a management project from StudentVoice. Departments use CAS (Council on Advanced Standards) standards for their criteria and benchmarks on what programs should be doing. In cases where assessment is being done as part of the graduate programs of student affairs professionals, they have submitted materials to IRB for their approval.

Bunnie's presentation sparked discussion on using other electronic ways to gather student feedback, especially the survey function on Blackboard for formative assessment. Bob reported that Sociology, Anthropology, and Emergency Management is using innovative ways of assessing their online courses.

Bob distributed the Executive Summary from the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment study, "More Than You Think, Less Than We Need: Learning Outcomes Assessment in American Higher Education" by George Kuh and Stanley Ikenberry.

Bob also summarized the Progress on Reviews of Assessment Reports, thanking Carolyn for volunteering to review several reports and for completing them so quickly.

No other new business was presented by members of the committee. The meeting adjourned at 8:47.

The next meeting will be Friday, November 20 at 8:00 am in the Mandan Room.

Recorder: Larry Peterson