

University Assessment Committee
Notes for the Meeting Held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011

11:00 a.m. in the Mandan Room in the Memorial Union

Members of the University Assessment Committee present included: Bakr Aly Ahmed, John Bitzan, Ed Deckard, Myron Eighmy, Carolyn Grygiel, Bob Harrold, Bunnie Johnson-Messelt, Marinus Otte, Debb Pankow, Larry Peterson, David Scott, Bill Slinger, and Amy Rupiper-Taggart (Liaison from the Faculty Senate)

The minutes of the previous meeting (November 29, 2010) were approved as distributed.

Additions to the proposed agenda, announcements, and handouts:

- A) There were no corrections and updates to the proposed agenda.
- B) Announcements from members of this committee.
 - Larry announced that the Fifth State-wide General Education Summit will be held on Friday, April 29th at the Microsoft Campus. A blue-ribbon panel will discuss the future of General Education in the morning and two panels of hiring managers will discuss characteristics and abilities that they will seek in future employees. Security at the Microsoft Campus will necessitate registration in advance so that a list of participants can be provided to the corporate hosts.
- C) Announcements from related committees or activities (Gen Ed, Senate, others).
 - i) Larry indicated that the University Curriculum Review Committee (UCRC) will initiate an online survey of faculty to gain insight into their expectations of General Education in the future. The survey will be available in March and will be coordinated by the Group Decision Center.
 - ii) Department Chairs and Heads will be contacted by UCRC members from individual colleges to establish meetings to gain faculty input into structuring General Education for future needs and expectations.
- D) The handout on progress on reviews was distributed and discussed.
- E) No additional points of interest were presented by members of this committee.

Subcommittee Reports:

- A) Campus-Wide Assessment Plan Subcommittee (Dave Scott)
 - Dave indicated that comments received will be incorporated into the next draft of the University-wide Assessment Plan.
- B) Education and Training Subcommittee (John Bitzan)
 - i) John announced that assessment luncheons have been scheduled for Monday, March 21st and Tuesday, March 29th. In response to a question about menu, John indicated that the Fajita Bar and Sandwich Bar have been identified. There was general agreement with the selections. Claudette Peterson will describe development of her perspectives of assessment at the first luncheon. Rubrics will be featured at the second luncheon where Larry will discuss AAC&U rubrics and Bill will present the Collegiate Learning Assessment rubrics.
 - ii) Discussion of the topic of "Assessment for Dummies" was deferred until the next meeting.

4) Unfinished business:

- A) Continuation of discussions from the previous meeting (Minutes, items 3.b [Course and program assessment] and 3.c [Emphasizing the importance of assessment]).

Amy suggested development of one-page documents as vehicles for communication with faculty and Larry mentioned potential coordination with other committees. Increased reporting to Faculty Senate was suggested as another vehicle for communication. Extensive discussion involving members of the committee ensued that led to the committee's description in the proposed Bylaws of the Faculty Senate.

- B) No additional items of unfinished business were presented by members of the University Assessment Committee.

5) New Business:

- A) Committee description in Faculty Senate Bylaws

Strong sentiment was expressed by several members for maintenance of voting rights for all committee members as recognition for the range and extent of assessment activities within various aspects of the university. During this discussion, Amy asked the members to consider seeking reclassification from that of a Standing Committee of the Faculty Senate to that of a Joint Committee. Following exploration of this avenue, a **MOTION** (Eighmy/Otte) to request said reclassification received unanimous approval from the members present at this meeting. Bob was directed by the committee to draft example language to be distributed to the membership for their consideration and subsequent communication of a final draft to the Faculty Senate.

- B) No additional items of new business were presented by members of the University Assessment Committee.

No other items were presented by members of the University Assessment Committee and a **MOTION** to adjourn was received at approximately 10:52 a.m. and received immediate approval.

Future meetings of the University Assessment Committee:

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 11 a.m. – Peace Garden Room

Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 11 a.m. – Peace Garden Room