

Advisory Committee on Academic Assessment

Minutes

February 17, 2015

Members in Attendance:

Fashaad Crawford, Julie Gabella, Cathy Mahrle, Joan Meggitt, Ann Motayar, Donald Palmer, Mary Parr, Lynette Phillips, Valerie Samuel, Kathy Spicer, Pamela Tontodonato, Patricia Vermeersch, Lindsey Westermann Ayers and Artem Zvavitch.

Members Absent:

Hadeel Akram, Regina Bond, Amanda Clark, Joe Clark, Cesquinn Curtis, Pratim Datta, David Dees, Erica Eckert, Michealle Gabrovsek, Meghan Harper, Deborah Huntsman, Gretchen Julian, Janeen Kotsch, Tasha Ledrich, Kimberly Peer, David Putman, Arina Sheheglova and Kathryn Strand.

1. Introductions/Welcome

1. Ms. Ann Motayar, Director, Career Services introduced herself and has joined the committee.

2. ACAA Updates

1. Provost Office

- Dr. Jennifer McDonough has accepted the position of Associate Vice President for Academic Operations and Administration.
- Dr. Amy Reynolds has accepted the position of Dean, College of Communication and Information.
- Dr. Lance Grahn has accepted the position of Dean, Trumbull Campus.

2. Unit/Other Updates

- Ms. Valerie Samuel provided an update that the Office of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (RPIE) has changed their name to Institutional Research (IR).
- Dr. Lynette Phillips noted that the College of Public Health recently hosted an external accreditation review team. The College is undergoing accreditation review.
- Dr. Donald Palmer advised that the Kent Core Assessment is overseen by the university requirements curriculum committee (URCC). When the name was changed from Liberal Education Requirements (LER) to Kent Core the Faculty Senate wanted all courses assessed. The URCC did complete the assessment plans for the Kent Core courses. Now, questions are arising on how URCC is analyzing collected data. The mechanism to

analyze the data is becoming cumbersome. Dr. Fashaad Crawford added that this will be an area of on-going focus. He also suggested that Dr. Paul Gaston will begin to assist the Provost Office in assessing the general education core. Recently, Dr. Gaston (and Dr. Crawford) hosted a webinar at KSU with over 100 participants from around the nation, centered on academic assessment. Moreover, Dr. Crawford added that many universities are currently facing similar trends regarding general education assessment.

3. Quality Improvement Activities - Group Discussion

1. Higher Learning Commission Feedback

- Dr. Crawford provided a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) update: the university has to submit an interim report, due May, 2016. The report should entail evidence that the university is enhancing the culture of academic assessment. It was also announced that the next quality checkup will likely be during the 2022-2023 academic year.
- Ms. Kathy Spicer provided a handout which was presented at last month's meeting. As a continuation from the previous meeting, she reviewed various assumed practices and criteria of accreditation that the university has to comply with as a condition of affiliation (including policies related to new programs, additional locations, faculty qualifications, and specialized/professional accreditation). Ms. Spicer mentioned that the latest version of the HLC policies went into effect September 1, 2014.

2. Data Management Survey

- Dr. Crawford provided an update on the assessment management survey that will be distributed to WeaveOnline users.

4. Other

1. New Business
2. Old Business

5. Discussion

1. Assessment Presentation

- Dr. Lindsey Westermann Ayers led a discussion and provided a handout that listed majority of the assessments coordinated by the Office of the

Provost. Dr. Westermann Ayers presented the results from 2014 Great Colleges to Work For survey which was administered this past spring.

- Dr. Lindsey Westermann Ayers also discussed COACHE (Collaborative of Academic Careers in Higher Education) which entails a three agreement with Harvard University. Currently, the university is in year one of administration of the COACHE faculty job satisfaction survey. The survey is currently ongoing until April and will assess faculty job experiences and satisfaction at all of the KSU campuses for full-time tenure track and non-tenure track faculty.

2. Meeting Adjournment - meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.