

Advisory Committee on Academic Assessment

Minutes

November 19, 2013

1. Introduction of Members Present:

Kaylan Baxter, Katlyn Carter, Joe Clark, Fashaad Crawford, Cesquinn Curtis, Pratim Datta, David Dees, Robin Eastman, Erica Eckert, Cathy Mahrle, Mary Parr, Kimberly Peer, David Putman, Donald Palmer, Cherrie Reger, Valerie Samuel, Kathy Spicer, Patricia Vermeersch, Lindsey Westermann Ayers

2. Approval of October 15, 2013 Meeting Minutes with the addition of David Putnam to the list of 'Closing the Loop' subcommittee members' names on pg. 2

3. Updates

- **Office of Accreditation, Assessment, and Learning (AAL) Updates** - Fashaad Crawford provided an update on the submission of the University's Systems Portfolio. The portfolio, which serves as a university self-study, was submitted to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) in early November as part of the AQIP reaffirmation of accreditation process. The document will be published and also is viewable via the AAL website. Additionally, a cross-institutional Federal Compliance committee convened to organize the collection of documentation that demonstrates the University's compliance with federal regulations. A report of this compiled information will be submitted to the HLC as a follow-up to the University's self-study. Lastly, the University was notified by HLC that a third external reviewer was added to the visiting evaluation team. The third reviewer, a dean from a community college, will focus primarily on reviewing the regional campuses.
- **Unit/Other Updates** - Valerie Samuel provided an update on behalf of Research Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (RPIE): RPIE has recently received the most recent results from the Graduate Student Survey (GSS) from the Survey Research Lab (SRL), housed in the Department of Sociology. The survey is administered to undergraduate students one year after graduation. The survey provides feedback about the quality of undergraduate education, and allows for the identification of individuals who had a positive impact on students' college experience. The positive impact of these individuals is recognized through letters of acknowledgement. The committee discussed the possibility of extending the GSS assessment to graduate students and to students at regional campuses. The committee will explore this further.

- ACAA Subcommittee Updates
 - Assessment - Kaylan Baxter provided an update on behalf of the Assessment subcommittee: The group met independently and had a broad discussion concerning AAL assessments, the content and aim of these assessments, and previously identified areas for improvement. The group devised a work plan to begin reviewing current assessment tools.
 - Kent Core - Lynette Phillips provided an update on behalf of the Kent Core subcommittee: The group met and discussed work currently being done to assess the Kent Core. A subcommittee of the University Requirements Curriculum Committee (URCC) is currently working on this effort. The subcommittee is discussing the possibility of serving in a support capacity to the URCC subcommittee, and will redirect its primary efforts toward assisting in the exploration of data management systems for academic assessment.
 - Closing the Loop - Kathy Spicer provided an update on behalf of the Closing the Loop subcommittee: The group met independently and discussed how to create a culture of assessment, and affect positive change utilizing assessments and findings. The group will visit various groups on campus for additional discussion and feedback on these aims. The group has also begun to compile resources in Google Docs, including articles about closing the loop, and utilizing assessment data.
 - The group's subcommittee updates prompted a discussion about our current culture of assessment. The discussion also included a dialogue on faculty incentives for assessment practices. It was decided to revisit this discussion at our next meeting on January 21, 2014, and invite Associate Provost Melody Tankersley.

4. New Business

- Operating Procedures – Tabled for next ACAA meeting on January 21, 2014.

5. Subcommittee Breakout Sessions: All subcommittees met separately, and continued discussions about subcommittee objectives for the upcoming year.

6. Next meeting: Subcommittees will meet independently in lieu of December meeting; next scheduled ACAA meeting will take place on January 21, 2014, 11am-12pm, in room 222 of the Library.