

**University Assessment Council
HLC-NCA Subcommittee
Minutes**

Thursday, January 23, 2003
105-K ATRC
3:30 p.m.

Present: B. Edgley, G. Gates, K. Keim, Z. Quible, J. Schatzer, D. Thompson, G Wilber, J. Wallin, T. Magness, B. Masters

Announcements:

Committee members were given a copy of the 2002 OSU Annual Assessment Report. Julie reminded members that the report can be used to compare assessment methods among academic units and review how other programs are implementing outcomes assessment.

This year the annual assessment reports and budget requests from academic units will be due on June 13th. Julie related that this may help departments when coordinating assessment activities for the next fiscal year. Additional information will be sent to Assessment Coordinators.

Council members received a copy of the OUA-SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) document that was submitted in December to Academic Affairs.

OSU will be presenting two papers at the 2003 HLC-NCA annual meeting. J. Wallin and B. Masters will present a paper on OSU's General Education Assessment initiatives and J. Wallin will present a paper with the assessment directors from University of Nebraska - Lincoln and Eastern Illinois University on using the NCA Assessment Matrix.

Agenda:

1. HLC/NCA Proposed Criteria for Accreditation
2. HLC/NCA Levels of Implementation (Assessment Matrix)
3. How will we guide academic units to respond to HLC/NCA assessment expectations?

The committee discussed the new Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (HLC-NCA) Proposed Criteria for Accreditation and Levels of Implementation documents. The documents were reviewed to discuss how assessment ideas are integrated into the new Criteria for Accreditation and

where OSU should be in terms of the HLC/NCA Assessment Levels. By the 2005 re-accreditation site visit, OSU should be Level Two in all assessment areas and demonstrating progress towards Level Three. A key concern related to this is making departments and faculty aware of the 'Levels' and the HLC/NCA assessment expectations.

The committee discussed the idea of developing an online 'form' that colleges and departments would use to respond to both the 'Criteria' items and also the 'Levels' items. A process of having units 'self-evaluate' where they stand with assessment might be useful in communicating assessment information. The committee did not want to ask academic units to respond to the Levels and the Criteria for Accreditation separately. The committee agreed that the Levels of Implementation needed to be somehow meshed with the Criteria for Accreditation to avoid redundancy and frustration in departments. Members also thought they would have a better understanding of the self-study process and how to 'mesh' these two documents after they attend the HLC/NCA annual meeting in April 2003.

J. Wallin and B. Masters will work on a questionnaire and create an on-line survey that department's and units can utilize for self-evaluation. This will streamline the process and will give the self-study team an opportunity to provide feedback to departments prior to the 2005 re-accreditation visit.

Next meeting dates:

2-27-03

3-27-03

Adjourned 4:45 p.m.