

**University Assessment Council
Minutes**

Tuesday, May 6, 2003
419 Student Union
3:30 p.m.

Present: P. Bowers, A. Carlozzi, B. Edgley, G. Gates, K. Keim, K. Kelsey, S. Langstraat, J. Locke, S. Ownbey, Z. Quible, C. Reichard, J. Schatzer, D. Thompson, G. Wilber, J. Wallin, T. Magness

Announcements:

1. Program Outcomes Assessment: Assessment Council completed reviews of all outcomes assessment programs within the College of Education in fall 2002. Outcomes assessment budget requests and annual reports are due Friday, June 13, 2003.
2. General Education assessment: The General Education Assessment Task Group is now the General Education Assessment Committee and reports to the Assessment Council and the General Education Advisory Council.
3. Entry Level Assessment: an assessment proposal is being developed to evaluate the educational impact of NOC remedial courses on OSU students.
4. Student / Alumni Satisfaction Assessment: 2003 OSU Survey of Graduate Program Alumni data collection is completed and reports are being prepared. A total of 787 grad program alumni responded to the survey out of 1,912 alumni in the target population (41% response rate, target population included all graduate program alumni who received degrees in 1997 or 2001).

Agenda:

1. National Survey of Student Engagement The Council was informed about which groups on campus had received the NSSE information. Julie Wallin and Dr. Ownbey presented the results to Faculty Council at their April meeting. Several programs and colleges have conducted local versions of the NSSE to obtain additional program-level data or are planning to do this next year, including the College of Business Administration, the College of Education, the College of Human Environmental Sciences, and the Honors College. The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources has also begun to discuss how they might do a similar survey at the college- or program-level.
2. HLC/NCA Annual Meeting Update. Dr. Gates provided an overview of the 2003 HCL/NCA annual meeting and OSU's preparation for the self-study and re-accreditation process. She reported that the HLC's 'assessment matrix' (also called the 'levels of implementation') was not as strongly emphasized at this year's annual meeting, and Commissioners advised institutions to consider how assessment is thoroughly integrated into the new 2003 Criteria for Accreditation. For this reason, the Assessment Council will continue with its current process of reviewing units' outcomes assessment programs and not initiate a new review process or requests for information based specifically on the HLC's 'Assessment Matrix.' Gates also reported that OSU's ReAccreditation Self-Study team has been appointed. Program outcomes assessment and general education assessment will be most closely aligned with Criteria Three (Student Learning and Effective Teaching, led by Jon Comer) and Criteria Four (Acquisition, Discovery, and Application of Knowledge, led by David Buchanan). Brenda Masters is chairing the self study team.
3. FY04 Budget Planning Report – Julie provided the Council with a copy of the plan as was given to the Executive Vice President for FY04 budget planning. The report outlines where and how assessment fee money is disbursed among various units. For FY04, \$ 210,000 is scheduled to be allocated to OSU colleges and departments for program outcomes assessment, compared with \$202,000 spent on outcomes assessment in FY03. Because the FY '04 budget request for outcomes assessment deadline

was changed to June 13th, specific department requests for funds in FY04 were not discussed. The Council will consider and approve the department-, school-, and college-level requests for funds for outcomes assessment at their first fall semester meeting.

4. FY04 Assessment Fund Requests. Council reviewed requests for assessment funds for special assessment projects and for areas not related to outcomes assessment.

CHES - request funds to support surveys and student focus groups to obtain information to improve HES Career Services and optimize use of expected career services student fee money (contact: Lona Robertson, request: \$5,790). The Council recommended that CHES request that the new Career Services fee money be used to support this project. The Council agreed this would be a more appropriate source of funding.

Academic Services for Student Athletes – (1) specialized entry-level reading assessments of entering and transferring student-athletes to identify potential learning disabilities and make appropriate advising / placement decisions (request: \$4,600), and (2) surveys to evaluate student satisfaction with Academic Services for Student Athletes (request: \$3,760) (contact: Joshua Krawczyk). The Council approved the use of assessment funds to support this project, but asked that Julie Wallin work with the principal investigator in developing the 'survey' component of the study and revise this portion of the budget request.

Honors College – request funds to administer a local version of the NSSE in spring 2004 (contact: Bob Spurrier, request: \$1,780). The Council approved the use of assessment funds to support this project.

The other requests for assessment funds were from units that receive assessment funds annually for continued work related to assessment. These include Student Affairs (\$8,165 requested and approved for FY04), the Admissions Office (\$8,000 requested and approved for FY04), University Testing & Evaluation Services –COMPASS placement testing (\$3,100 requested and approved for FY04)

5. Results of the CIRP Freshman Survey, fall 2002. Dr. Bowers shared the 2002 CIRP Freshman Survey results. This survey was conducted in the first week of the fall 2002 semester, and 2,117 of OSU first-time freshmen (64%) completed the survey. Nationwide, 282,549 freshmen at 437 baccalaureate colleges and universities participated in the study coordinated by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA, in association with the American council on Education. OSU's participation in the Cooperative Institutional Research program (CIRP) Freshman Survey is coordinated by the Division of Student Affairs and funded by the Office of University Assessment. The Council discussed how OSU freshmen responses compare with responses of freshmen at other institutions regarding grades received in high school, time spent study in high school, and opinions on social issues. The Council also discussed the other survey topics that were described in the CIRP Freshmen Survey national press release.

Meeting adjourned 4:50 p.m.