

University Assessment Council Minutes

Wednesday, August 17, 2005
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
250 Student Union

Present: P. Bowers, J. Comer, G. Gates, C. Hawkins, B. Ivy, D. Jordan, G. Lage, S. Ownbey, J. Schatzer, D. Thompson, T. Weir, and G. Wilber

Guest: Steve Edwards

Two documents – “Highlights of the Graduate Student Satisfaction Survey” and “Highlights of the Survey of Alumni of Graduate Programs,” from surveys reported this summer, were distributed to Council members.

A form to provide feedback to departments regarding their 2004-05 Annual Assessment Reports of program outcomes assessment was approved by the Council. Bowers will provide ratings and comments on specific aspects of the annual report to programs using these forms. Council members agreed to meet with assessment coordinators in their respective colleges and Bowers to discuss this feedback.

Gates and Bowers will meet with Provost Strathe next week to discuss Assessment Council feedback on Academic Program Review documents reviewed this summer. Council members indicated that it would be helpful to know more about intentions regarding the changing role of the APR process, and the outcomes assessment information in particular.

Bowers presented a powerpoint presentation on program outcomes assessment that will be used to help explain expectations for annual assessment reports and budget requests. Bowers asked Council members if the information presented accurately represented the views of the Council, as this was the basis of comments drafted for feedback to programs on annual reports and for decisions on allocations of assessment funding for FY06. Although not unanimous, Council members generally agreed that this was accurately representing the philosophy of the Council.

The Council continued the discussion begun last year about the need to improve outcomes assessment of graduate programs. Thompson, Ownbey, and Jordan agreed to serve on a sub-committee of the Council to work on this issue.

The Council agreed to change the process for the review of program outcomes assessment for programs that will participate in 2007 academic program review. The Assessment Council will review these documents at full meetings of the Council this Fall semester instead of using sub-committees for that process. The material to be reviewed will be provided to members two to three weeks before each meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Brenda Brown.