



**UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT
ASSESSMENT COUNCIL
MINUTES
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH
1:30 PM, STUDENT UNION**

Present: Comer, Damron, Davis, Edwards, Gates, Haseley, Hawkins, Miller, Ownbey, Paustenbaugh, Payton, Penn, Ray, Rohrs, Thompson, Weiser, Wilber, and sitting in with COE, Brent Hill

Absent: Swinney, DeVuyst

1. Introductions of Assessment Council Members were made. The Student Government Association and Graduate Student Association has been contacted and asked to appoint a representative to serve on the Assessment Council.

2. Minutes from the April 3, 2009 meeting were reviewed. No corrections were requested.

3. Members discussed the role, mission, and values of Assessment Council. Dr. Penn noted that this is a good time to have this discussion because it aligns with university-level strategic planning and because the mission and vision statement for Assessment Council has not been revised for five years. The goal is to have a nearly-completed draft of the new mission and vision ready for review by the Assessment Council in the spring semester, 2010.

Attendees participated in an activity to share goals for Assessment Council for the coming year. The new goals and ideas that were mentioned are:

- Examination of value-added for programs and courses
- Professional readiness in addition to academic readiness
- College-level coordinator progress: how can we do the best job with coordination
- developing a new template for Plans and Reports
- Strategic planning
- Costs and benefits – how much is assessment costing us and how much should it be costing
- Inclusion of accreditation and program reviews as part of Assessment Council's role
- Directing resources to those "in the trenches"
- Maturation of the assessment process
- Blending accreditation
- Look at general education and connecting students with their majors earlier in their college careers
- Simpler mechanisms embedded in what faculty members are already doing
- Inversion of university curriculum to get students into the discipline more quickly
- Promote effectiveness
- Relevant professional development
- Fund innovative projects and hold folks accountable (grant could become a loan if not properly used?)

- Make recommendations on curriculum reform
- Greater participation in assessment
- List of accreditation data needs for the library; central information source or 'go-to' place to track accreditation
- Identify 1 student learning outcome that shows the value of the library for student learning
- Helping student affairs connect and have better connection with assessment
- Finding ways to get faculty and students engaged and connected with assessment
- Using results from general education process
- Linking across campus between clubs, majors, and other programs
- Follow-ups with units
- New Diversity Goals
- Implementing writing fellows into general education writing
- Having greater participation in assessment in departments
- Student engagement more implemented into assessment
- Accreditation process to more coordinated with assessment, student affairs and assessment more coordinated with one another
- A follow up with dropouts

The 2004 mission statement was discussed and will be revamped. It was found to be vague and more specifics were needed. Dr. Penn suggested the idea of a study group to form to revise the mission statement for Assessment Council.

The Assessment Website will be redeveloped in coming months. This also provides an opportunity to refocus the website on specific elements to better align with the new mission and vision for assessment (when completed). Dr. Penn asked for suggestions or comments on redeveloping the website.

4. Dr. Ray shared highlights on results of surveys from the 2009 Survey of Alumni from Graduate Programs and Graduate Student Satisfaction Survey 2008 (GSSS). Assessment Council members suggested some changes to the report template to improve clarity. NSSE results have been returned to OSU and will be shared with colleges in the coming months. In general, the results show some positive trends but also include some areas for concern.

An overview of funds for FY10 for the outcomes assessment budget approval was handed out showing the amount of funds that each department the requested and the money approved. The percentages of approval categories were discussed, leading to the discussion of the guidelines related to the use of assessment funds and student workers.

Licensure and Certification test request list was included as a handout. As in past years, OSRHE requests information regarding the percentage of students passing these exams for the annual report. Please submit this information to Dr. Penn by November 1st.

5. Finally, fall 2009 assessment events were discussed which included assessment luncheon workshops and the General Education Workshops. An overview of the numbers for General Education writing, critical thinking, and diversity were given. Critical Thinking numbers were 17, 14 for critical thinking, and 13 for writing. Flyers

were handed out for times and dates for the workshops. Assessment Council members were encouraged to recruit additional participants for all workshops.

The following announcements and updates were provided:

- That the University Assessment website will be redeveloped in upcoming months. Suggestions or thoughts on ways to improve the website or elements to include should be sent to Dr. Penn.
- If interested in joining the study group for redevelopment of Assessment Council Mission Statement please contact Dr. Penn. We are looking for a group of about 5 members.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.