

University Assessment Committee
October 11, 2005
Hixson-Lied Room 102

The meeting was called to order by Scott Chadwick at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Scott Chadwick, Craig Dallon, Tim Dickel, Katie Huggett, Gail Jensen, Fran Klein, Jim Knudsen, Phil Meeks, Tom Meng, Mike Monaghan, Rich Rossi, Stephanie Wernig.

Absent: Barb Braden, Joan Norris, Todd Salzman.

1. ***Introductions***

New and continuing members of the committee were introduced.

2. ***The status of assessment by program, college/school, and the university: Distribution of information and discussion***

- Scott provided copies of the template he's been using to track the status of assessment by colleges, schools, and programs.
- Scott asked for help in updating the CCAS information. Fran, Phil, and Tim said they would provide that update.
- Scott gave the group a heads-up that requests for assessment evidence for the accreditation self-study will be forthcoming later this semester.

3. ***University-level assessment: Discussion of the Lisle, IL summer workshop***

- Scott and other attendees of the Lisle summer workshop (hosted by the Higher Learning Commission) provided an overview of their work there. Particular attention was paid to the proposal to trim the five learning outcomes articulated by Fr. Schlegel during his 2004 Founders Day Convocation to three. Those three outcomes would focus on effective communication, disciplinary mastery, and knowledge of Ignatian traditions and values.
- A question was raised about the need for university-level assessment in general, and with respect to values in particular. Responses to the question focused on the idea that the university is bigger than its parts (i.e., colleges and school) and that some assessment can best be done at the university level. Agreement to further investigate the potential for university-level assessment, particularly the assessment of values, exists at the consensus stage, but there is not unanimous agreement about that.
- Questions were raised about the use of portfolios for assessment data and analysis, with resistance to the use of portfolios being expressed by representatives from several schools. The point was made that portfolios are an example of what can be done, but there is no plan to force any school, college, or program to use portfolios if they are not efficient and effective for those units.

4. ***Suggestions for action items***

- A committee member asked if it is possible to get self-study documents from other Jesuit schools. Scott replied that he will seek those documents, but that in the past, Jesuit and non-Jesuit schools are reluctant to share their reports. reported that the University self-study process is about to begin.

- Gail Jensen stated an interest in helping to craft a university-level assessment web page. Phil Meeks said he would assist in that process.

5. *Other items*

- Scott suggested three “homework” tasks
 1. He asked everyone to bring to the next meeting examples of how their school/college assesses values.
 2. He asked everyone for suggestions of how to get faculty input on the university-level goals / objectives.
 3. He stated that he would meet with Fr. Schlegel seeking approval from him on moving ahead with university-level assessment.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.