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Assessment of Student Learning minutes 09/06/ 2016

Assessment of Student Learning Committee

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UMM Assessment of Student Learning Committee
Board Meeting Minutes: September 6, 2016
1:00pm – 2:00pm Prairie Lounge

Committee Member

Present: Rebecca Dean, Kristin Lamberty, Nancy Helsper, Melissa Bert, Tricia Rohloff, Rachel Jonson, James Wojaszek, Tammy Berberi, Rachel Brockamp

Absent: 1st year Student

Other present: Makiko K Legate (supporting staff)

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 1:00pm by chair, Rebecca Dean

No meeting minutes were submitted for amendment/approval

Business

1. Introduction of Committee members
 - a. Melissa Bert - Job description has not been written into committee language
 - b. Nancy Helsper, Institutional research coordinator of assessment
 - c. James Wojaszek – Spanish
 - d. Tammy Berberi - French : New on this assessment committee
 - e. Rachel Johnson - Science & Math
 - f. KK Lamberty - Computer Science
 - g. Steve Burks - Economics and Management
 - h. Rachel Brocamp - SDSA Rep: New on this assessment committee
 - i. Rebecca Dean - Anthropology : Sabbatical last year
2. Review of HLC demand
 - a. This meeting is mostly figuring out what we are doing this year and what happened last year.
 - b. Brief report was given by Bart at the campus assembly at the end of last year.
 - c. Main point of this response letter – the committee needs to show the evidence of “closing the loop”.
 - d. Lack of participation – Need everyone on board, getting assessment done and closing the loop. Tie back the assessment data to changes in the curriculum.
 - e. Next HLC report is due on March, 2018 and should indicate:
 - i. All campus programs have develop learning outcome procedures that align with campus standards.
 - ii. Assessment data from our programs are being recorded and analyzed systematically.
 - iii. The Analysis of the assessment data is being employed for the purposes of program improvement.
 - f. Be able to accomplish #1, however, the argument is whether we have campus wide standards.
 - g. #2 & #3 may take some work.
 - h. HLC comes back for accreditation visit in Spring 2020. It is important to accomplish this upcoming report.
 - i. Have other campuses written anything about overcoming these issues?
 - i. Template can be used

- ii. Twin Cities – uses assessment software, all online with full time coordinator to collect data (success rate – unknown)
- iii. Maybe start a Google Classroom for the whole campus:
 - Set each assignment as a group assignment
 - Set the deadline in the Google calendar
 - Awareness of assignments, a place to do it, and the timeline (this was a complaint last year)
- iv. Real question: is there an actual standard that you are asked to meet? This question is one we have not dealt with.
- v. Is everyone more or less doing the same level of assessment – Steve and Rachel looked at the reports and they were all varied in what they were doing.
- vi. Simpler might not yield any useful evidence.
- vii. Bottom line – How have you used assessment and improved your program?
 - Economics Discipline had multiple meetings and revised their SLOs, and determined what is Discipline plan vs “National” standard.
 - Mapping may not be irrelevant?
- viii. Back to Workshop – People to get things done and help them figure out what they need to do at the same level.
- ix. Again, this is related to accreditation – Important that actual work needs to be done, not just check off the list.

3. MN VALUE Project

- a. Minnesota schools are trying to do some assessment as a community. Schools are given a series of rubrics related to specific skills, knowledge and technology and these schools are collecting samples of student work and applying these works on a community wide basis and looking at things such as: written communication.
 - i. How students are changing on their written communication skills over their careers.
 - ii. Adding some level of value to students and programs.
 - iii. Verify the rubrics – how we are evaluating.
- b. In 2014-15, we have collected work for written communication, quantitative literacy and critical thinking. 2015-16, we did same three rubrics.
 - i. No useful results from 1st year
 - ii. No results from 2015-16 yet
- c. 2016-17, three more rubrics would be added – intercultural knowledge and competence, civic engagement, and ethical reasoning
- d. Has been mapped in to SLOs
- e. Eventually, by Spring 2020, we need to look at how we are evaluating Gen Eds – either connect with MN Value or direct assessment (was conducted in 2005 or 2008).
- f. Workshop may be helpful – people to understand what and why we are doing what we do.

4. For action

- a. In Gen Eds, how to measure if the students are actually learning what they are supposed to?
- b. Are we improving – programs and student learning?
- c. Originally, reevaluation of Gen Ed program was done through an exploratory committee as opposed to assessments.
- d. A White Paper was proposed but not presented.
- e. Curriculum Committee has been looking at the Gen Eds – As Assessment Committee, need to communicate/ report to Curriculum Committee.
- f. Update the schedule (2016-17)

- i. Who has done the mapping on SLOs ?
 - ii. Doing Cooperative Institute Research Program this year
 - iii. Leave off study abroad learning assessment.
 - g. Need to close the loop – if you evaluated your PSLO at some point, communicate with committee if it worked.
 - h. How are we transforming the data to improve the program and outcome?
 - i. Designate day to do all the reporting.
 - i. Some resistance from faculty – not willing to give up a day out of their schedule.
 - ii. Workshop to launch the day and go off to do it.
 - j. Faculty development day.
 - i. Do assessment in the morning and reports in the afternoon.
 - ii. Concern – Can we do it annually (continuity).
 - iii. We can ask one designated person per discipline if it is more feasible.
 - iv. Dean would like to have the list of “dysfunctional disciplines” - Communicate with chairs, work with them, and get them up to speed.
 - k. Do we need another form of assessment besides MN Value Project?
 - i. Suggestion – 5 question multiple choice provided by disciplines to intro and senior courses.
- 5. Next Meeting
 - a. Discuss subcommittee to undertake the task.
 - b. Start thinking about how we are assessing the Gen Ed programs.
 - c. New Gen Ed language program.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm