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## Assessment of Student Learning minutes 04/25/ 2013

Assessment of Student Learning Committee

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## Minutes of the Assessment of Student Learning Committee

April 25, 2013 (3:00 pm; Student Center Prairie Lounge)

*Present:* Ted Pappenfus (Chair), Brooks Jessup, Jim Togeas, Stacey Parker Aronson, Steve Burks, Jana Koehler, Andrew Sletten, Emily Sunderman,. *Absent:* Barbara Burke, Nancy Helsper, Wendy Emo.

1. **Minute Taker:** Ted Pappenfus

2. **Approval of minutes** from April 18, 2013 (taken by Stacey): minutes were approved.

3. **Approval of first-year student surveys: AGE and ALO.** Pappenfus initially brought these two surveys forward to the ASLC committee at the April 18, 2013 for review. Pappenfus brought them back to the committee for final review and approval:

a. Assessment of General Education (AGE) Survey: Pappenfus pointed out the addition of the following two questions which were suggested by Nancy.

**General education courses will be a valuable part of my education.**

1. *Strongly agree*      2. *Agree*      3. *Neutral*      4. *Disagree*      5. *Strongly Disagree*

**There is a connection between being a good citizen and what I will learn in general education courses.**

1. *Strongly agree*      2. *Agree*      3. *Neutral*      4. *Disagree*      5. *Strongly Disagree*

The questions above are modified versions of those in the 2013 AGE survey for graduating seniors. Ted also pointed out he is still working on adding the section for demographic data.

b. Assessment of Learning Outcomes (ALO) Survey: This survey was previously identified as the Student Learning Outcomes Assessment (SLOA) Survey, but Pappenfus changed the name to ALO to better align with the AGE acronym. Other items of note: (i) Stacey pointed out the text, “How often during high school...” needed to be changed to, “Before coming to UMM...”; (ii) For the questions with identical choices “Frequently/ Sometimes/ Rarely/ Never/ I’m not sure what this means”, Steve suggested a tabulated matrix; and (iii) Pappenfus pointed out he still needs to add demographic data section similar to the AGE survey.

The ASLC requests that these two new surveys be conducted during orientation this upcoming fall. Andrew is on the UMM Orientation Task Force and will give them the head’s up for our request. Pappenfus will send a memo to Dave Swenson after meeting with the Curriculum Committee.

4. **Draft of assessment/review plan for Curriculum Committee** (for review and approval). Pappenfus presented a draft of a document to be presented to the Curriculum Committee during its April 30, 2013 meeting. Steve had questions on the appendices. Ted projected electronic versions of the appendices and pointed out they will be provided to the Curriculum Committee in some form. The committee had additional grammatical/organizational suggestions for improvement. Items of note:

\*Steve emphasized that AGE and ALO surveys for incoming students should be done before the general session on our GenEd program during orientation.

\*With respect to assessment in programs, Brooks pointed out that some colleagues utilize assessment questions as bonus points in their courses.

\*Committee members seemed to endorse the idea of outlining learning outcomes in new course proposals or revisions via ECAS. Such a process could actually make assessment more efficient in the long run as outcomes/methods are defined early.

\*There was also discussion about a sustainable assessment plan (related to assessment of majors and assessment of GenEds). Should we tie the cycle to our catalog timeline or to the HLC timeline? There are advantages to both and this will be discussed further in AY 2013-14.

5. **Next meeting.** The next meeting will be Thursday, May 2, 2013 at 3pm.

*Meeting adjourned.*