

**Assessment for Student Learning Subcommittee  
March 17, 2006**

**Present: Hodge, Jensen, Johnson, Novak, Royer**

- 1) Call to order 8:34
  
- 2) Approval of Agenda - Approved
  
- 3) Approval of February 16, 2006 Minutes – Approved  
Correction – under #2 – 5 – minutes – should show what did you do.

Verification - Faculty Coordinator Assessment Student Learning – (Gary Novak’s position)

4) **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gary advised Assessment Council met two times and had two council meetings because they could not get everyone together. A lot of discussion and focus on the workbook and developing plans and departments and focused on missions and goals. Request to get all programs, goals and student learning into the catalog.

Hodge requested clarification because it is confusing to talk about student learning goals and mission goals.

Johnson suggested objectives may be a better word. We want our students to be able to communicate effectively. The problem is we have different language. We need to provide an environment for students is the program goal. Then we have our learning objectives.

Hodge advised they use outcome in place of objectives.  
Novak agreed there has been some confusion with words.

Johnson asked for department examples so we can figure out what to call them. Novak replied at the next council meeting he will see if they can come up with more clear way. Jensen agreed need to find common language.

Novak stated one of the items is the concern over assessment in RPT. Also concerns that the AC should be concerned with everything related to assessment, not just assessment of student learning. There is a document that clarifies the 10 Methods of Assessment. In addition, there will be an Assessment Leadership Team (ALT) that will be concerned with broader university assessment issues.

Jensen asked for verification, you made a statement about student learning in the catalog. Won't that bulk up the catalog?

Novak replied it will probably end up by department or program and added that President Shirvani wants to go to a yearly catalog.

Hodge asked how we know when WASC is coming.

Novak replied about 18 months after proposal for capacity and preparedness. We have about three years to get there. The plan is to start inquiry circles, write descriptive essays on how we are teaching.

## 5) CURRENT DISCUSSION ITEMS

### a. Role of Faculty Coordinator for the Assessment of Student Learning

Gary advised he will provide job description before the next meeting.

Jensen asked when you say job description, what would you be asking this group to do? Novak replied need feedback and look at compensation on what seems reasonable. It would be good for this group to help define since it involves compensation. It requires six units a year. Need to ask what is reasonable for attracting this person in the future and look at role of faculty coordinator and WASC.

Jensen asked could this be a full time position with WASC.

Novak replied, with WASC it could be a full time position. He would like to see it remain teaching at least one course this should be a faculty position. This should relate to Faculty Development (Armin's position) this position is supposed to report to Faculty Development Director. However, he spend time reporting to Diana. When the new person comes in they would have to figure out how they would balance these two. Because it is not really working out how it was set up.

Margaret to contact Lori Phillips to request job description and 10 Rules of Assessment.

### b. R.P.T. and Assessment Reviews –

Novak stated issue came up in Assessment Council some arts letters and sciences got letters asking to add course objectives in syllabus. Does that violate assessment principle #7? Looked at Principles of Assessment of Student.

Royer voiced her concern as a Jr. Faculty member who got one of those letters from the Dean. If you say you are going to do something and you don't, that is just one more problem. I have to change my goals in my syllabus because of student disabilities.

Hodge stated she comes from complete opposite end of spectrum. We have done assessment forever. You would not offer a class without specific lesson without tying class lessons to objectives.

Royer hesitated to be extremely explicit in syllabus because I am afraid things might change.

Novak questioned if this does violate principles if the dean does this??? The other question is does this dampen people's interests in assessment. The 3<sup>rd</sup> thing is it a compliance issues, Does WASC require this? He talked to Demetrulias about this, she thought it might dampen faculty. Novak handed out "education effectiveness" - # 3 it mentions syllabus. If you are a good administrator and you mandate this to show in syllabus.

Jensen asked if this is a contractual issue or a policy. Novak replied it is a policy. He knows that the GE Subcommittee mandates that syllabi have GE goals. As far as he knows there is nothing mandated by WASC that learning goals be in the syllabus.

Jensen questioned Novak attending conference on meeting the next ASL meeting date of April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Consensus – to cancel meeting of April 13<sup>th</sup> and meet again on next meeting of April 27<sup>th</sup>. Prior to next meeting Margaret will obtain information job description and 10 Methods of Assessment from Lori Phillips and email to committee members.

Carry items 5 a and b for next meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> 8:30 –

- c. Old Business: - Novak questioned how to get people the Faculty Participation and Assessment conferences. Fullerton is one of schools of the nation. 2<sup>nd</sup> largest was **Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)**. Fullerton is the west coast conference to go to. There are other assessment conference to go around as well. We could send 2 or 3 more people to assessment conference.

Johnson suggested what encouraged her to attend a conference was a personal invitation from Demetrulias. She suggested receiving a personal invitation made me more interested and harder to say no.

Novak shared his experience that there is interesting information at these conferences and is really enthusiastic after going. These also provide way for scholarship of teaching. He thinks Johnson's notion of inviting people is a good idea.

Jenson stated getting the call from Demetrulias or Provost, President it does make a difference. He questioned usefulness of conferences.

Novak stated in the past we have gone through the deans. Who is asked becomes an issue. How do we determine who get invited.

In the past, Demetrulias has suggested to leave it up to the Dean.

Johnson suggested a lottery among the PACS – Program Assessment Coordinator

Novak stated PACs would be good to send. Priority going to the ones who did not already have accreditation going on.

Jensen agreed a personal invitation from Demetrulias or higher up is good idea and then set priority so we don't get the same crowd.

Novak – the faculty can make recommendation to Demetrulias on whom to invite.

Meeting Adjourn at 9:38 a.m.