Assessment Oversight Committee
Minutes
March 10, 2008
4:15 p.m. 1510 Ullsvik Hall

Present: Carol Sue Butts (Provost), Dennis Ciesielski (LAE), Ben Collins (Faculty Senate Representative), Shane Drefcinski (Assessment coordinator, Undergraduate Curriculum Commission Representative), Mohan Gill (EMS), Peter Hadorn (LAE), Marge Karsten (BILSA), Tom Lo Guidice (LAE), Matthew Roberts (EMS), and Amanda Trewin (BILSA, APC Representative)

Absent: Carlos Wiley (Student Affairs Representative), (Student Senate Representative)

1. Approve minutes of 2/25/08
   Minutes approved with minor revisions.


3. Assessment Activity Fund
   In October 07 (taken from 10/8/08 minutes), Tom motioned that AOC and the Improvement of Learning Committee will work jointly to prioritize funding Assessment/Curriculum Improvement and Scholarship of Teaching (SoTL) grants/activities that promote reexamination of General Education and Assessment of Learning in 2007-08. Mohan 2nd the motion. Motion passed. It was noted that approval is contingent upon approval by Improvement of Learning Committee too.

   When the above motion was passed, we had hoped that the General Education Task Force would be far enough along that we would be able to solicit AAF proposals related to the development of interdisciplinary courses that would meet General Education Goals. Although they have met several times each month, the Task Force has only developed a “Proposed Goal of a UWP Education” They hope to complete Essential Learning Outcomes this semester and forward those to UUCC and Faculty Senate for their reactions. They are in no way ready to determine what courses will meet future General Education Requirements. We determined that we couldn’t base preferences on a document that doesn’t exist. Further, although a similar resolution was passed by the Improvement of Learning Committee, the CIF applications went forward as usual without any stipulations as set by the resolution.

   We were then asked to determine how we are going to target the 2008-2009 AAF proposals. There was some discussion about various ideas.

   Marge moved that for the 08-09 AAF proposals, preference will be given to projects that focus on the development or improvement of assessment tools that work across academic or service areas, for example communication skills, writing skills, diversity, and mathematical skills. The motion was seconded by Tom. The motion passed.

   We then discussed the possibility of carrying some funds over the next year to be used with CIF Funds to fund 09-10 proposals that promote reexamination of General
Education and Assessment of Learning (as intended for the 08-09 funds). There was some concern that we shouldn’t constrain ourselves in this manner.

Tom motioned that we recommend to the provost and AOC committee for next year that our funds will be encumbered in the following manner:

- $10,000 for assessment now
- $10,000 for assessment next year
- $20,000 for development of new curriculum ($10,000 from each academic year)

Dennis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

It was noted that we need to contact sponsored programs in advance to prevent current dilemma from repeating itself next year.

There was some discussion about that only Tristate money can be held over into the next fiscal year. AAF projects are funded through a variety of accounts including campus, system and tristate money. At least $8,000 of this is Tristate money.

4. Adjournment 4:45 p.m.