Assessment Oversight Committee
Minutes
May 12, 2008
4 p.m. 1510 Ullsvik Center

Present: Dennis Ciesielski (LAE), Ben Collins (Faculty Senate Representative), Shane Drefcinski (Assessment coordinator, Undergraduate Curriculum Commission Representative), Marge Karsten (BILSA), Matthew Roberts (EMS), Amanda Trewin (BILSA, APC Representative), and Carlos Wiley (Student Affairs Representative),

Absent: Carol Sue Butts (Provost), Mohan Gill (EMS), Tom Lo Guidice (LAE), (Student Senate Representative)

1. Shane moved to approve the minutes of 4/28/08. Amanda seconded this motion. Motion passed.
2. AAF recommendations
   Proposals were discussed and ranked.

There was some concern that the proposals, as a rule, lacked rigorous literature reviews. It is possible that others have conducted assessment research similar to the proposed projects and that faculty/staff are ‘reinventing the wheel’.

There was also some concern that several proposals are not truly assessment research but rather continued assessment. Our understanding is that funded research should investigate effective assessment strategies and promote improvement of assessment. Once it has been established that the assessment strategies is appropriate and effective, that information should be used to change the program assessment for the better. These ‘permanent’ changes should not be continually funded by the assessment activity fund but rather by the programs, the colleges or the university. It is felt that if we continue to fund such proposals that we are enabling this inappropriate practice. On the other hand, if we don’t fund such proposals, very important assessments will be cut.

Ben motioned and Matt seconded that we recommend the following for funding:
2. $3,000 for Second Triennial Incentive Based Basic-Skills Assessment. Dennis Ciesielski.
4. $2,500 for NSSE Analysis. George Smith. (Since we are paying for the NSSE survey, we believe that the analysis should be funded.)
We recommend that there be a provision that the continued English (Proposal #2 above) and NSSE assessment/analysis be University responsibility in the future.

Finally, we recommend that ACES Advising Survey be funded through other sources. Because strong advising is vital across the campus, we recommend that each college and Student Affairs should contribute toward the $1,500 cost of the survey and the $1,000 graduate student stipend could be funded through the ACES account.

Motion passed.

3. Meeting adjourned at 4:45.