Minutes
Assessment Oversight Committee
September 8, 2008

Present: Carol Sue Butts, Ben Collins, Shane Drefcinski, Marge Karsten, Prathivadi Ravikumar, Matthew Roberts and Amanda Trewin

Absent: Dennis Ciesielski, Yuanyuan Hu, APC representative, Student Affairs representative, Undergraduate Curriculum Commission representative and Student Senate representative

Guest: Pat Bromley

1. Introduction
2. Approval of 5/12/08 minutes
   Moved by Ravi, seconded by Marge
3. Election of Chair and Secretary
   Shane Drefcinski as Assessment Coordinator volunteered to continue to chair this committee. Amanda has indicated that she does not want to continue as secretary. Ravi indicated that he is willing to serve as secretary in 2009-10. We are in need of a volunteer for this academic year.
4. Overview of AOC Duties
   AOC procedures as documented at website above were discussed.
   Academic programs reviewed by both APC and AOC every 6 years. The reviews are staggered such that there is a review every 3 years. In part this is to ensure that the momentum started through the APC review cycle is carried over into the next review cycles.
   AOC also assesses various Sponsored Programs.
   There was some discussion about sending a follow-up report from AOC to the Chairs and Deans/Mic Viney at the end of the academic year. The report should identify areas of strength/growth as well as opportunities for improvement. The report will also be copied to the person that prepared/presented the report. Reports will be prepared by the AOC chair. So moved by Marge, seconded by Amanda.
   Finally, the AOC recommends to the Provost the distribution of Assessment Activity Funds (AFF) and receives presentations of finding related to the research funded by these funds.
5. 2008-09 AOC Schedule
   Meetings for this academic year have for the most part been scheduled.
   First Semester
   Sept 8, 2008: Bromley AAF
   Sept 22, 2008: Phy Ed
   Oct 13, 2008: Huebschman et al AAF
   Oct 27, 2008: Information Services
   Nov 10, 2008: Information Services (continued), Olson et al AAF
Nov 24, 2008: Prospective Students
Dec 8, 2008: Accounting
Second Semester
Jan 26, 2009: Anderson AAF
Feb 9, 2009: Student Health Service
Feb 23, 2009: History and Math Gen Ed
Mar 9, 2009: TBA (Possibly Pre-College Programs)
Mar 23, 2009: Theater
Apr 13, 2009: Services for Students with Disabilities
Apr 27, 2009: International Studies
May 12, 2009: AAF Grants

6. Assessment Activity Fund Report
Assessing the Value of the Diversity Component in the MSE Adult Education Program for Use as a Marketing Strategy
Presented by Patricia Bromley, Psychology faculty and Distance Ed Professor
The MSE Adult Education Program is a program that serves two populations. First, it serves technical college faculty who need to maintain a teaching certification. Second, it serves Human Services with an emphasis that trains minorities to be alcohol and drug counselors. This program is offered at a distance where faculty members teach in a classroom with some students while others are connected digitally. This program is in part an outreach effort by UWP in that it serves time- and place-bond students.
To explore whether or not students valued a diverse student population in this program, focus groups were set up. Pat found that students did value the diverse population of students with regard to race, age, occupation, region of state, and socioeconomic status and the ideas each student is able to contribute to class. Further, they think the program is minority-friendly because the faculty listen to the students and classes are offered on Fridays/Saturdays. Students did suggest that more people should be helped with this program.
Pat also explored the possibility of offering this program in Fox Valley and Rockford. To this end she investigated whether or not there are currently competing programs available and she survey potential employers. She found that Rockford is not a good prospect because there are other opportunities available to this community at a lower cost (Rockford residents would pay out-of-state tuition). It is more feasible to offer this program in the Fox Valley. One possibility would be to offer core classes at the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay, WI.
There is some concern that nearby system schools offer similar (although not identical) programs.

7. Adjournment 5:00