Minutes
Assessment Oversight Committee
November 10, 2008

Present: Carol Sue Butts, Denise Ciesielski, Ben Collins, Shane Drefcinski, Yuanyuan Hu, Evelyn Martins, P.B. Ravikumar, Matthew Roberts, Amanda Trewin

Guests: Julie Clark, Jean Olson, Lisa Riedle

1. Approval of 10/27/08 meeting minutes

2. Announcements (by the Provost)
   • Governor is likely to provide budget information soon – budget cuts are likely.

3. AAF Report: “Assessment Tools to Determine Impact of International Exchange Programs on UWP’s Curriculum” – Carol Beals, Julie Clark, Jean Olson, and Lisa Riedle
   • Julie Clark, Jean Olson, and Lisa Riedle presented the AAF Final report. Key points of the presentation were:
     o On-line self-assessment surveys were sent to UWP international exchange students pre-departure and post-return in lieu of videotaping as it was unwieldy. The 10-question survey showed that the exchange program benefited the students on most aspects in the survey. Based on the outcomes, it was decided to continue the survey in the future.
     o To assess the impact on UWP curriculum by the presence of incoming international exchange students in UWP classes, e-mails were sent to faculty with exchange students. Based on the moderate number of responses, it was concluded that foreign exchange students bring valuable perspectives and enhance qualities such as motivation to students on campus. It was also decided to inform faculty with international students in a manner to make the faculty aware of their presence early.
     o The need to improve closer interaction between foreign exchange students and UWP students was recognized. Variations in course exam formats as between Europe and here as well as language problems were identified as some key reasons for the lower levels of interaction.
     o Evelyn Martins inquired if returning exchange students can serve as ambassadors to promote the exchange program. Lisa Riedle said attempts are being made to do so.
     o Lisa Riedle mentioned that joint senior design projects could materialize through contacts established from the exchange program.
     o Matthew Roberts suggested a way to improve their continuous assessment of the exchange program by defining specific outcomes and insuring that the tracking of the sample is more accurate.
     o Carol Sue Butts suggested that the report and the outcomes be shared with the International Education Committee on campus. Yuanyuan Hu, a member of the committee suggested that the guests attend their next meeting(s).

4. Adjournment: 5:00

Respectfully submitted by P. B. Ravikumar