Assessment Oversight Committee
Agenda
January 26, 2009
4:00-5:00 1510 Ullsvik

Present: Carol Sue Butts, Dennis Ciesielski, Ben Collins, Shane Drefcinski, Yuanyuan Hu, Evelyn Martens, Matthew Roberts and Amanda Trewin

Absent: Marge Karsten, Prathivadi Ravikumar, APC representative, Student Affairs representative, Undergraduate Curriculum Commission representative and Student Senate representative

Guest: Donna Anderson, Russ Braby, Barb Daus, Tom LoGuidice

1. Approve minutes of 12/8/08
   Matt moved to approve minutes as printed. Minutes approved.
2. Announcements
3. AAF report “QUIP for Study Abroad”—Presentation by Donna Anderson and Russ Braby

The UWP Institute for Study Abroad Programs (ISAP) voluntarily participated in a new review process through the Forum on Education Abroad. They chose to participate in this review for several reasons. First, they feel it is their obligation and responsibility to provide good service, particularly in light of the fact that 80% of the students they deal with are non-UWP students. They also want to be recognized for conformity with the Standards of Good Practice for Education Abroad. They still need to ask how this conformity can be advertised. UWP is the first UW System School to participate in this review process. Quality Improvement Program (QUIP) standards are listed on page one of their report.

There were several components to the review process. A self-study was completed in Fall 2007 by the QUIP Self-Study Team (Donna Anderson, Barb Daus, Russ Braby and Sue Price). Challenges and Strengths were identified.

In Fall 2008, Peer reviewers (from outside UWP) evaluated the program. They provided a comprehensive report and recommendations. They noted that the biggest surprise they had was that the peer-reviewers admitted that they had expected that the self-study team had overstated itself and would be low quality. Instead, the peer-review team was very complementary about our program and the friendliness of everyone involved. In part because the reviewers were from private institutions, they didn’t expect the caring nature demonstrated toward our students.

Finally, the QUIP Self-Study Team now has the opportunity to submit comments related to the peer-review report and recommendations.
The QUIP Self-Study Team feels that the QUIP Criteria could be used to evaluate other programs at UWP such as student exchange programs and short-term faculty led international trips.

Assessment grant funding was used to pay the forum for participation in the review process and financed peer reviewers travel expenses.

4. AAF report “Student Success in College”—Tom LoGuidice.
Tom provided a summary in a Powerpoint presentation. They were trying to gain a better understanding of why UWP scores low on the ethnicity/race questions on the NSSI survey. To this end, student focus groups were organized. Some groups (business students) didn’t have any students currently involved in ethnic/gender general education courses. Other groups (School of Education) were entirely made up of students currently enrolled in ethnic/gender general education courses. During focus group sessions, discussion was focused on NSSI survey questions that had to do with race/ethnicity. Additional questions were asked that dealt with gender/gay, lesbian, etc.

Business students had limited interaction with diverse racial/ethnic groups. Only one student reported participation in an ethnic activity when not required to do so for credit or extra credit. Although more School of Education students had interacted with students of different ethnic groups within the last year, their experiences were minimal. Although the intent of the project was to look at experiences on campus, students did bring in experiences outside of campus as well. Focus groups only looked at student experiences with other students. They did not look at student experiences with diverse or minority faculty.

They would like to replicate the study with other majors/student groups. BILSA and EMS students will be looked at in Spring 2009.

From this study, they concluded that UWP needs to make more efforts to make ethnic/gender experiences permeate UWP culture.

Grant money was used in large part used to create time for administrators to participate and complete this study.

5. Review of AAF web page
Office of Sponsored programs is trying to update the website. Significant changes have not been made in the last year. It was noted that dates need to be changed.

AOC members should take a look at website and forward potential changes to Shane by noon Wednesday, January 28, 2009.
With regard to 2009 AAF proposals, we need to decide whether or not a specific area will be emphasized. This will need to be decided at the next meeting. Proposals haven’t been excluded in past but rather an area might receive priority. Upon receipt of AAF submissions, AOC will be asked to prioritize and send recommendations to Carol Sue Butts. Approximately $15,000 is distributed per year.

6. Review of AOC Summary of Accounting

Changes need to be made to the summary before it is submitted to Accounting. It should note that evidence given in the report was too anecdotal. Shane will modify summary before next meeting.

7. Adjournment: 5:00 p.m.