Minutes  
Assessment Oversight Committee  
Feb. 23, 2009

Present: Carol Sue Butts, Ben Collins, Shane Drefcinski, Marge Karsten, P.B. Ravikumar, Matthew Roberts, Amanda Trewin, and Dennis Ciesielski, Evelyn Martens.  
Guests: Dave Boyles, Levi Jones (student observer), David Krugler

The meeting began at 4:02 p.m.

1. Approval of the minutes from January 26 and February 9th. Marge mentioned that in one instance the numbering should be corrected. Shane made the correction immediately. Dennis moved that the minutes be approved, Amanda seconded. Minutes were approved.

2. Announcements: Carol Sue mentioned that while the Governor said that education would not be cut as much as other agencies, the budget for UWP will be cut. We are still waiting to hear details.

3. Assessment report: Mathematics General Education. Dave Boyles presented information on the math skills assessment instrument. He started with some general thoughts on assessment of student learning, including a timeline of assessment efforts by the math department at UWP. He described the development of the mathematics assessment instrument. He discussed the results, including the consistency of answer patterns on questions and the trends by class and by type of question (number sense, spatial sense, and data). At the end, Dave raised several questions regarding assessment generally and assessment of mathematics specifically. It was asked what has changed based on the assessment efforts. Dave explained that because of the work involved in developing and administering the instrument, work on using these results has not been completed. It was also asked how these results could be used to improve teaching. Dave mentioned a specific example of how “drawing a picture” is necessary to answer certain questions on the instrument—so, if instructors could be asked to emphasize the importance of drawing pictures. It was suggested that the results be disseminated to other general education faculty. Dave responded that results have been posted on the web.

4. Assessment report: Historical Perspective. David Krugler answered question on the initial efforts to develop an assessment program for the historical perspective area of general education. David emphasized that a primary instructional goal is that students be able to use primary sources as evidence to develop a cogent interpretation of historical events. It was asked if results will be posted online. David agreed to post the results of the assessment efforts.

5. AOC Summary of Accounting Assessment Review. The final revised version of the accounting assessment review was presented. Matt moved that the review be approved. P.B. seconded the motion. Carol Sue suggested that the feedback be submitted electronically. The motion, with Carol Sue’s suggestion, was approved.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Roberts