Assessment Oversight Committee

Minutes of Meeting on December 12, 2011


Guest: Donna Anderson, Study Abroad

Call to Order
This meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM by Drefcinski (Chair)

Approval of Minutes
The Committee approved the minutes for the November 28th, 2011 meeting (Barraclough moved, Drefcinski seconded)

Announcements
S. Drefcinski commented on the progress of the revision of the general education curriculum on campus. Several proposals are currently being discussed, but UUCC is currently at too early of a stage to make official recommendations. He also clarified that all courses that currently fulfill general education requirements will be evaluated on two fronts: what specific learning outcomes the course aims to achieve, and what specific assessment tools will be used to measure this.

AAF Grant Summary: Study Abroad
D. Anderson began with a brief overview of the Global Perspectives Inventory (GPI), a national survey used by colleges/universities to assess students’ global awareness/perspectives. This was used by Study Abroad to expand on their current assessment practices, which have primarily focused on the individual programs offered. The goal was to gain insight into how students perceived and valued their education abroad experience. A secondary benefit would be to share these results with other campus constituents (Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, Student Affairs, etc.).

Key findings:
- Compared to UWP peer institutions (public, 4 year campuses of similar student body size), Platteville students indicated similar or greater global perspective on cognitive, intrapersonal, and interpersonal dimensions
- Platteville students indicated similar or greater openness to cultural difference, but there were some indications that they had less experience with it compared to peer institutions
• Platteville students were less likely to agree that “my college/university community honors diversity and internationalism” than peer institutions
• Due to the small number of Platteville students who responded to the pre- and post-survey/assessment, it was difficult to assess how the student’s individual study abroad experience impacted his or her global perspectives/awareness

D. Anderson shared plans on how to continue assessment efforts in her office. This includes a breakdown of results by student program/major. This might lend insight into where our campus’s strengths are, and which departments have opportunities to grow/enhance their commitment to global perspectives. She also would like to look into the creation of an on-campus assessment tool, through collaboration with Institutional Research, which is modeled after the GPI. Overall, she found the GPI to be a valuable tool and would like to work with it or a similar tool in future assessment activities.

The Committee found the information helpful overall. K. Gagne proposed possibly delaying the post-assessment until the time of a student’s graduation. This would allow the student more time to put into practice what he/she gained from their experience. One additional proposal was the possibility of developing a homegrown assessment tool that would evaluate the entire UWP student body. This could be used to gain a different perspective on the value of a student’s study abroad experience compared to students who did not complete such an experience.

**AOC Math Summary**
D. Boyles suggested we make a small revision to the summary: the addition of “we encourage” after the word “subsequently” in the second paragraph. Sentence will now read: “Subsequently, we encourage these results be used to inform teaching mathematics in the appropriate general education classes.”

**Adjournment**
Meeting was adjourned at 4:51 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Eric Farrell
Acting Secretary