Minutes
Assessment Oversight Committee
October 22, 2012
4 p.m. 1510 Ullsvik Hall

1. Present: Shane Drefcinski, Dave Boyles, Mary Rose Williams, Dan Enz
   Visitors: Mary Lenzi, Seth Buske, Troy Reddock Trenton Snoble
   Missing: Dominic Barraclough, Tera Montgomery, Joong-Jae Lee

2. Approval of September 24 minutes—4:01pm
   Mary Rose
   2nd by Dave

3. Philosophy—Shane Drefcinski and Mary Lenzi

   Philosophy program has two main goals: (1) to help students become what UW-
   Platteville pledges in the first item of its mission statement, namely, “broader in
   perspective… intellectually more astute, [and] ethically more sensitive;” and (2) to
   provide our majors and minors the opportunity to develop in depth their ability to think
   critically about the most fundamental questions that humans can raise about reality,
   knowledge, and values. Aim is to prepare students for whatever they pursue after
   graduation, whether it be graduate studies, law school, medicine, education, academic
   computing, journalism, social work, ministry, a fine art, or business.

   Results of assessment:

   1. **Evidence that students achieve stated learning outcomes:** Student learning
      outcomes (1)-(2) are achieved primarily by passing the courses that a student takes from
      our curriculum.

   2. **Things learned and things to work on:**
      The faculty participated in the TEC writing workshop. As a result, they now include the
      writing to learn methods within several courses.

      They are hoping to have students submit more papers to the statewide conference. Mary
      Lenzi had some students go to the Women’s Studies conference in Madison.

      Many upper-level division students are required to present their papers. They haven’t
      finalized rubric to assess their public speaking skills.

      Regarding the expressed need to track more the double majors and minors, Mary Rose
      Williams offered suggestions on how to track based on Media Studies.
Dave Boyles asked if there were something like a Capstone course. Shane replied yes, the advanced seminar.

It was suggested that the trick for 3000 level courses was to set cap lower than necessary—say 15. However, the university can still intervene to set the cap higher. This is where the writing emphasis implementation will be a good idea toward improving enrollment.

Mary Rose Williams asked if the Academic Planning Council could they take away the philosophy major? Shane: It could. Ninety percent of the work done is for the gen ed courses. Might eliminate the major, but keep the minor. Shane: it is an inexpensive major to keep.

Karen Gagne suggested that Philosophy, Politics and Law as a possible interdisciplinary minor could help with the enrollment.

4. AOC Summary of Counseling Services

Mary Rose motioned approved. All in favor. Counseling Services are going to continue to work on the collection of data.

5. Adjourn 4:35pm

Next Meeting: November 12—Conference Services—Kelly Jo Hadfield