

University Assessment Committee  
December 6, 2013  
9:00-10:30  
Raynor Library Conference Room A

Present: Sharron Ronco (Chair), Rebecca Bardwell, Patricia Bradford, Marilyn Bratt, Jon Dooley, Natasha Hansen, Tom Kaczmarek, Noreen Lephardt, Laura MacBride, Michelle Nemer, John Su, Fred Sutkiewicz, Christine Taylor, Jean Zanoni

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Sharron Ronco.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the November 22, 2013 meeting were approved without correction.

**Continuing Business**

Compensation, recognition and equitable distribution of labor for program assessment

The Committee discussed the distribution of labor, recognition and compensation of the Program Assessment Leaders (PALs) with the intent of helping PALs to improve their processes and explore ways to provide assistance to them. A possible first step is to learn more about how the system is working and more about the PALs including their responsibilities and how assessment fits within their other work obligations, how PALs are selected, and if they are being recognized/compensated. This information could be gathered via a survey or interviews. Alternatively, UAC members could gather the information from their respective colleges. Concerns were voiced regarding if this would raise expectations about improving the system or offering compensation. If inequities were discovered, how would they be rectified? Sharron will solicit information from PALs during the spring semester.

The Committee also had a broader discussion regarding assessment at Marquette—its current state with emphasis at the program level and its future and possible institutional level focus. One possibility is to use the program review process to audit the current structure and processes. In order to identify the role of assessment in the University's strategic plan, a strategic plan steward such as the steward for the Enhancement of Organizational Effectiveness should be invited to a UAC meeting. Sharron will meet with Interim Provost Margaret Callahan and Gary Meyer about the future of assessment at Marquette--be it to meet the requirements of accreditation or to become a data driven organization or something in between.

**New Business**

Putting peer review feedback in ARMS (Nemer)

Feedback from this year's Peer Review session has been archived in ARMS. The Committee is in support of this and has no concern that making this information accessible would cause peer review participants to be guarded in their discussion. Peer Review feedback has also been sent to Deans and Department Chairs.

Topics / modes of delivery for February professional development workshops

Professional development workshops have been set for February 21, 25, and 28, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Suggested topics include alternate approaches to assessment, curriculum mapping, benchmarking and assessing graduate programs. It was suggested that the sessions be videotaped and made available to those who cannot attend.

Request from Office of Student Development to suspend assessment reporting for 2013-14

The Office of Student Development has requested approval to suspend the collecting and reporting of data on its learning outcomes and to focus on rubric development in 2013-14. The request was approved by UAC.

Request from the Physics Department to suspend assessment for 2013-14

The Physics Department has requested permission to suspend assessment activity in 2013-14. UAC recommended that the Department develop a plan and timeline and that Sharron will work with them to do something with assessment this year.

Sharron Ronco recognized Jon Dooley for his many contributions to the committee and the University, and the Committee wished him the best in his new position as Assistant Vice President for Student Life/Dean of Campus Life at Elon University.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Zanoni