

University Assessment Committee

October 7, 2016

9:00 am -10:30 am

Raynor Library Beaumier Suite C

ATTENDANCE

Present: Sharron Ronco (Chair), Marilyn Bratt, Marta Magiera, Britt Wyatt, Baolin Wan, Steve Guastello, Sarah Feldner, Jean Zaroni, Karen Evans, Noreen Lephardt, Laura MacBride, Fred Sutkiewicz

I. Reflection/Prayer

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

II. Approval of the September 16, 2016 Minutes

The 9/16/16 minutes were reviewed. Corrections were offered and approved by motion from Noreen Lephardt, second by Karen Evans. Motion passed.

III. New Business

A. Update from the Chair

Sharron Ronco shared her recent experience as a site visitor for HLC. She reported that standard 5D requires a system of continuous improvement that goes beyond learning outcomes to institutional effectiveness, such as a process evaluation of financial aid, etc. Sharon felt the experience was extremely valuable.

Sharron completed two trainings recently for Program Assessment Leaders and had a couple of individual follow-ups with program leaders. She asked that committee members encourage colleagues to get annual reports in before the 10/24/16 deadline.

Sharron reported being in touch with half of the programs that had outstanding reporting issues.

B. Completing the Rating Guide for Spring 2017 program reviews

Sharron clarified that the rating guides were designed for programs that are in the university program review process. Sharron reviewed resources available on the assessment website. She shared the rating guide for the history program as an example. Assigned teams are to review the last three years of assessment reports and complete one summary rating. Discussion followed on whether the review would include 2016 report due October 24th and it was suggested that it would be best to include the most recent report if available.

The rating guides are to be completed based on information noted in the annual program assessment reports only. It was suggested that reviewers could include comments suggesting programs respond to any missing or lacking information in their self-study. The idea is to give helpful feedback to programs undergoing review. A target date of December 2, 2016 was set for the completion of rating guides by UAC teams.

C. Request for Hiatus in Assessment Reporting for Biomedical Sciences Major

The Biomedical Sciences Major has requested permission to suspend program assessment reporting while they are undergoing a revision of learning outcomes to meet the needs of a diverse and changing major. The program has experienced expansion and changes within the major that warrant a review of learning outcomes. Motion to approve suspension of assessment reporting for biomedical sciences major by Stephen Guastello, second by Karen Evans. Motion passed.

D. Promoting Curriculum Mapping

Sharron reported that HLC suggested that we increase our use of best practices including curriculum mapping. She would like to be able to display progress in the number of programs utilizing curriculum mapping. Discussion followed regarding strategies to increase utilization including explaining power of curriculum mapping, providing compelling examples, and exploring curriculum mapping software.

IV. Continuing Business

A. Update on Assessment of the Core

Sarah Feldner reported that philosophy and history were knowledge content areas that were scheduled to be assessed prior to the core review. The Common Core Committee expressed concern about the usefulness of completing an assessment that would not provide information reflective of the future core. Sarah reported that the committee would assess history knowledge area only for 2017-2018 with a focus on the changing core. Discussion followed. Sarah felt the Common Core Committee responded to the UAC request for continued assessment with this plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Sutkiewicz