

University Assessment Committee
December 2, 2016, 9:00-10:30
Raynor Library Raynor Study Room D

Present: Sharron Ronco (Chair), Susan Bay, Jodi Blahnik, Karen Evans, Sarah Feldner, Stephen Guastello, Noreen Lephardt, Laura MacBride, Fred Sutkiewicz, Pol Vandavelde, Baolin Wan, Brittney Wyatt

I. Call to Order/Reflection

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Sharron Ronco.
Noreen Lephardt offered the reflection.

II. Approval of the minutes from the October 28, 2016 meeting

Committee reviewed the minutes from October 28.

Motion to approve as recorded: Jodi Blahnik

Second: Pol Vandavelde

Motion passed unanimously.

III. Completing the rating guides for Spring 2017 program reviews—where are we?

- Sharon noted rating guides that have been submitted and those missing.
- Committee discussed what qualifies as “1,” “2,” etc. and how specific recommendations should be.
- Committee discussed Bioinformatics Master’s program review.
- Committee discussed whether individual UAC member reviewer names should be omitted from rating guide when the guide is provided to the program. Decided that Sharon will omit committee member names; all rating guides will be noted as “reviewed by the UAC” in pdfs provided to programs.
- Committee discussed rating process: whether and how to continue and follow up, benefits to committee, benefits to programs, how to advise programs to improve (specifically by connecting reflections to assessment process), etc.

IV. Peer Review Debrief

- Committee discussed peer review process:
 - Choice to put related disciplines at same table facilitated synergy in conversations.
 - Participants appreciated the shorter peer review session, allowed enough time for all at table to share, without too much.
 - Did not work when facilitators switched tables mid-way through review process; too difficult to offer constructive critique when arriving at table mid-way.
 - Overall impression: went well!
- Committee discussed “parking lot” topics, in particular, those described in **V. Proposed changes to assessment system, processes** below.

V. Proposed changes to assessment system, processes

- Alternatives to ARMS:

- Discussed asking Marquette IT, math, engineering departments to create student-built database.
- Discussed focusing on needs of Arts & Sciences when designing new assessment database/form because those departments have the most difficulty conforming to ARMS.
- Redesigned reflection page:
 - Make reflection section more prominent.
 - Provide prompts for effective reflection.
- Reconfigured drop downs to make them more accessible and relevant for Arts & Sciences.
- Discussed “Disrupting Assessment”:
 - Students self-assessing their learning: do students feel competent/confident performing this skill?
 - More emphasis on formative assessment,
 - Assess fewer learning outcomes, but develop new ones when proficiency is established,
 - How to address unique needs of students of color?
- Discussed holding supplemental “peer review” program in February to discuss bigger questions posed by assessment and ideas we have for changing assessment going forward.
 - Alternative: do this at next year’s peer review instead.
 - Alternative: focus on Arts & Sciences to help them comply with University assessment requirements; provide a forum for Arts & Sciences to explain why they object to assessment process; allow A&S to learn from accredited programs to better understand what the latter need to do to comply with assessment requirements; Sharon asked for UAC member volunteers to work with her to guide A&S PALS: Sarah, Brit, Pol, and Karen volunteered.

VI. A Fibonacci for Noreen!

Thank you, Noreen, for your years of contribution to the UAC and Marquette!!

VII. Meeting Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Noreen Lephardt

Second: Karen Evans

Motioned passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Bay