

# Assessment Committee Meeting

October 8, 2010  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Drinko 402, AC 208

**Meeting called by:** Mary Beth Reynolds

**Members Present:** Bill Pierson, David Pittenger, Elaine Baker, Rex McClure, Loukia Dixon, Sherri Stepp, Louis Watts, Celene Seymour, Ed Bingham, Dan Holbrook, Wayne Elmore, Janet Dooley, Mary Beth Reynolds

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Frances Hensley, Sherri Smith, Doug Nichols, Karen Barker (Recording Secretary)

**Guests Present:** Eryn Roles

**Members Absent:** Janet Dozier, Caroline Perkins, Patrick Murphy, Sam Seccuro

## Minutes

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**Agenda item:** Approval of Minutes from May 2010 Meeting

**Discussion:** Minutes were approved as submitted.

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**Agenda item:** CLA 09-10 report and fall 2010 administration

**Discussion:** Mary Beth summarized the CLA report from 2009-2010. Included was information concerning:

- Results
- Change in score reporting to a hierarchical linear modeling format
- Need for representative sample (reported that we did get a representative sample of seniors last fall)

Also discussed the current administration to freshmen – she is not having as much success getting a representative sample of freshmen so discussion centered around how to integrate the CLA with other new first year initiatives to get a better sample.

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**Agenda item:** NSSE report for 2010 and 2011 plans

**Discussion:** 2010 Results:

- Establishing baseline readings on the 5 primary topic areas
- Response rates were low in 08, higher in 09 and lower in 10.
- Both freshmen and seniors showed improvement in Active & Collaborative Learning, freshmen went down slightly in Enriching Educational Experiences
- Discussion centered around several issues:
  - Sample size & statistical significance of findings considering relatively minor fluctuation in scores
  - Now that baselines have been established, use the data to inform improvements

2011 – Mary Beth requested that committee members request that their constituencies encourage student participation

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**Agenda item:** Core Curriculum update and E-Portfolio Update

**Discussion:** Sherri reported that FYS faculty have had two debriefing sessions and it appears that the anxiety level among FYS faculty is decreasing. Faculty have reported having to clarify student misconceptions that FYS is the same type of class as UNI 101.

Doug discussed the E-portfolio process and how the artifacts will be uploaded by students for assessment by faculty (2 – with possible 3<sup>rd</sup> – for each artifact) based on rubrics established by the E-portfolio subcommittee of the General Education Council.

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**Agenda item:** MAP-Works update - discussion

**Discussion:** Mary Beth discussed the MAP-works and a major change this year, which is the Early Alert System. She asked committee members to encourage use of this feature by their fellow faculty members, as it provides an easy way for faculty to let the SRC staff know about potential student problems. She also updated the committee on the success of the Student Resource Center, which has had over 1,000 contacts with students. The SRC staff is actively using MAP-Works – especially the early alert feature – and is closing nearly all alerts.

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**Agenda item: Graduation Survey Update**

- Discussion:** Mary Beth provided a brief update on the Graduation Surveys:
- 39% response rate for spring
  - Lower for summer due to delay in receiving names from registrar's office
  - 40% of students say they graduate with zero indebtedness
  - The majority say they plan to attend graduate school

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**Agenda item: Syllabus Evaluation**

- Discussion:** Mary Beth said that she has received evaluation plans from nearly every department, but many didn't realize that they were supposed to implement the plans last year. The committee agreed that it was fine to start follow-up this year instead due to the confusion.
- There was also a point of clarification regarding whether every syllabus has to be evaluated every year, every faculty member, or just a random sample of syllabi based on a planned cycle. The committee suggested that a good starting point is for 25% of the faculty to be evaluated each year, but that the final plan should be somewhat flexible and based on department needs and resources.

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**Agenda item: Assessment Day**

- Discussion:** Karen discussed Assessment Day findings, including successes and challenges, and presented a list of proposed strategies to increase participation by faculty and students and to address other challenges and misconceptions revealed through Assessment Day feedback. She asked that the committee look over the proposed strategies and provide feedback in order to begin planning the 2011 event, which will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

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**Agenda item: Additional Business**

- Discussion:** None

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**Agenda item: Future Meetings**

- Discussion:** November 9, 2010 – Shawkey Dining Room (Lunch Meeting)
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***Meeting Adjourned***

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Respectfully Submitted,

*Karen Barker*

Karen Barker  
Recording Secretary