

University Assessment Steering Committee
Summary Note #33
Meeting Date: October 17, 2005

Attending: Steve Malcolm (chair), Patrick Benton (Aviation), Sue Brodasky (Institutional Effectiveness), Maira Bundza (Libraries), Kathy Cummings (EDUC), Kelly Daniels (GSAC), Marianne DiPierro (Grad College), Eileen Evans (Institutional Effectiveness), Bruce Ferrin (HCOB), Lin Foulk (Fine Arts), Linda Ickes (DOS), Rand Johnson (A&S), Deb Newson (EUP), Peter Parker (CEAS)), Dave (USC), Zoann Snyder (A&S), Tyler Watson (Sindecuse).

Absent: Ari-Gur, Barry-Davis, Burns, Dupuis, Leja, Mousavinezhad, Nagel, Reinhold

Malcolm called the meeting to order and asked for approval of Summary Note #32. One correction, the addition of Kelly Daniels to the list of attendees, was noted and the Summary was approved (Ferrin/Benton).

Evans provided a preview of the Higher Learning Commission/North Central Association focused visit. Members of the UASC, including some past members, will meet with the visiting team on Monday, November 7 from 2:00-3:00 pm in the MLK room in the Bernhard Center. Evans presented information about the role of regional accreditation and distributed copies of the Assessment Plan and Timetable which outlines the charge to the UASC. She referred the committee to page five of the document for a list of committee responsibilities. Discussion ensued concerning the responsibilities and involvement of the UASC in providing resources for the on-going development of assessment at WMU.

Cummings reviewed information about university assessment and provided the committee with a packet of readings and sample reports.

Malcolm distributed some potential questions for the committee's conversations with the deans. The questions also included suggestions for querying department chairs and assessment committees concerning the reporting process and use of assessment data. A lively discussion about the role of the UASC in providing support for the department committees, the potential benefits of the data collected through the proposed queries, and the need for the UASC to promote a culture of assessment across campus. Ferrin recommended that college representatives to the UASC might ask members of their department committees for input before the UASC proceeds with a more structured data gathering process. Noting that the time for adjournment had passed, Malcolm suggested that the discussion about questions for deans and possibly others be tabled until the next meeting.

Malcolm reported that the Women's Studies program has an assessment plan and that the American Studies program has been discontinued. No RACT reports were given.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15.