

Assessment Committee Meeting, 09/21/16

Committee members present: David Martin, Jeanette Moore Ritch, Jerry Wilcox, Josie Hamer, Karen Koza, Laurel Larson, Linda Dalessio, Lisa Peck, Mary Nelson, Stuart Dalton, and Tom Schmiedel.

Meeting began at 1:30

Tom volunteered to take minutes.

Jerry will continue as Committee chair for the academic year.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Nessie, Bessie, and Other Surveys: Although we had decided, in one of our Spring 2016 meetings, to do the BSSE survey for new, first year students Fall 2016, Jerry noted that there were two other surveys being administered and thus he thought it best to not go forward with BSSE. We are still planning to do NSSE in Spring 2017, which is administered to first year and fourth year students. Our last NSSE had a response rate of 26%.

Three modules come with our license to NSSE. We plan to use the Global and Civic Engagement modules. We can choose one more. We were advised to look at NSSE information for next time and hone in on a topic. List of modules is available at NSSE Modules:

<http://nsse.indiana.edu/html/modules.cfm>

We should use the data we obtain, from the upcoming survey, and compare it to 2013 and 2015 instances. If data is similar, perhaps we should administer NSSE every five years rather than every two years.

David asked about a simplified presentation or availability of NSSE, as it is so large that it is hard to find usefulness of it. Jerry will address

2. Jeanette distributed notes from the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities, Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Summit (May 6, 2016 Manchester Community College)

The summit addressed NEASC Standard 8 - Educational Effectiveness. The keynote speaker was Barbara Brittenham, President, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

Dr. Elsa Nunez, President of Eastern Connecticut State University, noted ECSU has determined there is a positive relationship between library instruction and student retention at ECSU.

It was noted it is the responsibility of the institution, not the individual departments, to help students graduate. NEASC is here to accredit the entire university, not departments.

NEW BUSINESS

Adapting to Accreditation Guidelines

Jerry distributed several documents involving accreditation. WCSU has an upcoming (a) Interim 5th Year Evaluation (2018) and (b) Comprehensive Evaluation (2023).

- NEASC-CIHE-New-Standard-8-2016
- NEASC-Making-Assessment-More-Explicit-E-Series-Forms
- NEASC-Student-Achievement-and-Success-Data-Forms
- High-Impact-Practices-AAC&U

NEASC will look at high impact educational practices in 2023. The document High-Impact Educational Practices (AAC&U) has several examples of high impact practices, many of which are in practice here at WCSU.

NEASC will look for evidence graduates obtain employment and have income. Kathleen Lindenmeyer, Director of Career Services, use of a web-tool to engage students and track outcomes.

- Issue: students working who are in school now. Difficult to track the difference between working now, as students, and working later as post graduate.
- First destination survey, 27% response.
- Timing to obtain data is troublesome. Emails might not be valid. Work with system office gathering data on last five graduating classes.
- WCSU/CCSU higher salaries than SCSU/ECSU. Want to see salaries over time. Integrate WCSU graduate data with Department of Labor (DOL) data.
- Tom Crucitti, Alumni Office.

Full time International student advisor. 12 F1 visas.

ICEP Student Exchange Program: <http://www.icep-usa.org/AboutICEP.htm>

We can/should use data from the 2018 interim report for self-study report for 2023.

Visiting team will not just accept GPA and other data departments might bring forth. Jerry passed out document: E-SERIES FORMS: MAKING ASSESSMENT MORE EXPLICIT, a matrix of Faculty involvement with the e-form. Mary asked about release time for faculty to work on it. David said School of Business meets Fridays 10-11. Faculty assessment meeting, build a culture of assessment, but does not see any faculty release time. Seen as part of faculty responsibilities. Could use a university assistant, 9 months does the work of spreadsheets, the nuts and bolts. Mary mentioned using independent study students.

Externals tests, indirect to the curriculum. Senior research projects. Document the progress, what changes are made, what results took place. Nursing using curriculum mapping techniques, matrixes.

Repository of assessments, documents from previous accreditation process.

Planning for 2018 should start now, involving assessment across and with multiple departments. David will email Missy. There should be a presentation for the Deans then trickle down to the departments.

Robert Diamond three curriculum model.

- a. As designed/published in the catalog
- b. As enacted
- c. As experienced by students

Assessment keeps these aligned to the actual advantage of the student.

Our next meeting is Oct 19 on Westside. It was requested to look to see if there are any large scale events taking place, as on at least one occasion last semester there were problems with parking.

Meeting adjourned at 2:33

Minutes by Tom Schmiedel