

Assessment Committee Meeting

November 15, 2017

White Hall 123A

Members Present: J. Wilcox, M. Callaghan, W. Cramer, J. Duffy, P. Ivry, K. Koza, T. LaPorta, J. Moore, T. Schmiedel

The meeting convened at 1:30 pm

1. Marjorie Callaghan volunteered to take minutes.
2. Patti moved to approve the minutes from the March and September meetings/Jeanette seconded. All in favor.
3. Assessment Guidelines. On the website are two different forms of assessment guidelines: the Busy Person's Guide and the Guidelines for Departments. Dean Brian Vernon submitted an additional suggestion. Patti Ivry, Marjie Callaghan, and Jerry Wilcox will form a subcommittee to compare, contrast, and consolidate the different guidelines.
4. Thank you to Sharon Guck for her presentation of the CORE survey last month. A copy of Sharon's presentation is on the K drive.

Walter noted that the Office of Student Affairs is looking at SLOs with regard to attendance and satisfaction in connection with the Strategic Plan. They are working with Skyfactor Student Success Software and Program Assessment and will look at three areas, including Housing, to assess in the next couple years. They are also working to include an assessment page on the Student Affairs website so that CORE assessments may be posted.

Jerry reported on a parallel development regarding assessment software called Aqua. According to the handout "Aqua: A Simpler Path to More Meaningful Assessment" is geared to Gen. Ed. assessments but could also be used for co-curricular assessments. It can handle a variety of well-defined rubrics to assess video, text, etc. with the results stored on the Aqua Cloud. If faculty are interested, they can sign up and will be trained.

Jerry also reported on a meeting he attended of the Evaluation of Programs Committee. The committee is chaired by Pam McDaniel and is tasked with assessing university programs, defined as "anything that consumes the university's resources." They are searching for overall measuring devices that can assess programs in all areas. The objective is to meet Goal #5 of the new Strategic Plan.

Patti added that there is an effort being made by the Provost's Office to coordinate all the evaluation initiatives. A template has been created for the evaluation of programs that eventually should coincide with the template for annual reports.

5. The results for the NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement) high impact practices for the four CSU schools are available on the K drive. There is work to be done in terms of expanding all high impact practices even beyond internships. Can we use NSSE to set benchmarks for WCSU? WCSU has a low return rate of surveys, only 26-27% at its highest compared with a 46% national response. Why? Is there a lack of interest from the administration? Should we make an effort? Are the results worth the effort? We have time to decide as the next survey will not be funded until Spring 2019.
6. Patti compiled a list of SPS courses with experiential components. Jerry plans to match courses with recent graduates to see how many took courses with experiential learning. He can also match the courses against the enrollment for the current semester to give an idea of the percentage of students who are having these experiences.

Patti expressed concern that, since the SPS courses are required for the degree and are assessed and supervised, there needs to be a priority system regarding who is able to obtain the internships. Each school and department should decide which internships are optimal for their students/majors. A general coordinator may be necessary.

7. The American Council on Education (ACE) White Paper on Instructional Quality, Student Outcomes, and Institutional Finances is posted on the common drive. We need dedicated support from Information Technology to help collect data on student outcomes and learning and to compile the data.
8. The next meeting will be held on January 24 at 1:30 in White Hall 123A.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Submitted by Marjorie Callaghan

Appendix

Evaluation of Programs Committee: Strategic plan Initiative to prioritize Academic Programs and Services

- Pam McDaniel (Theatre Arts)
- Ann Atkinson (Liaison)
- Chuck Rocca (Math)
- Marcy Delcourt (Education)

Next meeting: January 24, 2017

- NSSE Results (CSU) – Low results
 - Next is Spring 2019 – NSSE party
- Experiential Learning
 - School of Professional Studies
 - Local agencies
 - Concerns from Patty
 - Internship are mandated by programs and should have priority
 - Unpaid vs. Paid internships
 - [Clearing house](#) or system in place for internship monitoring
 - Kathleen Lindenmeyer
 - Faculty coordinate from the four schools who can be the point person in each school