

Meeting Minutes: Assessment Committee January 28, 2014

Present Committee Members: Angela Palmer, Leroy Wright, Deanna Goldthwait, Cindy Horn, Kristen Salomonson, George Nagel, and Erik Wessel
Absent: Lisa Ortiz, Nicholas Campau, and Angela Roman
Guests: Dr. Roberta Teahen, Associate Provost

HLC Update:

Dr. Teahen gave an overview of the current HLC status of Ferris, a brief overview of new standards adopted by HLC, and future action plans of Ferris regarding compliance with HLC. Dr. Teahen communicated that new standards were adopted in January 2013; which is less than two years from our 2011 visit. She explains that the new standards are more rigorous and specific. A revisit from HLC for Ferris is scheduled to occur sometime in 2020/2021. However, Dr. Teahen states the importance of starting action plans now, because under the new standards, HLC will be seeking more data rather than narratives.

Dr. Teahen communicated that our institution is interested in obtaining a couple of new doctorate programs in the near future. If we receive these new programs, we will also receive a site visit from HLC. At this time, they will not look at the program for accreditation, but rather look at the University's ability to sustain the program as a whole, and will begin looking at the entire criterion. Dr. Teahen warns of the importance of the University to tend to the criteria immediately because if the institution does not meet one of the core components, we would be immediately placed on probation status.

Dr. Teahen shared a document labeled, "The Higher Learning Commission Criteria for Accreditation and Assumed Practices." She had highlighted particular core components that were relative to Student Affairs and discussed a few of them with the committee. Dr. Teahen applauded the efforts thus far of the assessment completed by the Student Affairs Division, stating that our division does a phenomenal job on defining the learning that happens within our students. She reiterated that data like this is extremely important because it proves to others and the HLC team that Ferris is doing what needs to be done.

Assessment Buddy List Review:

A copy of a revised Assessment Buddy list was handed out. Erik Wessel has been added as an assessment buddy to Charlotte Tetsworth. Due to Deanna's maternity leave scheduled around the time of Assessment reporting, it was suggested that Nicholas Campau partner with Deanna in assisting Cindy Vander Sloot in her assessment efforts.

Assessment Timeline Review:

A copy of the Assessment Timeline was given to the committee. Kristen suggested that invitations for the Assessment Connections Day in April be sent out early before calendars fill up. Angie will explore date options. It was suggested that we invite the new Vice President of Student Affairs to the Assessment Connections Day as well.

The Assessment Highlights Review Day is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 13, 2014 and not for August 16, 2014.

Other:

Leroy passed out documents for the committee to review. He shared the website <http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/UPA/archives/assmt/resource/htm> as a resource which includes a comprehensive list of rubrics regarding assessment. A second document titled, "What is 'Good' Assessment? A Variety of Perspectives," was given as a resource as well. This document was compiled by Linda Suskie, Middle States Commission on Higher Education, and can be used as a resource regarding accountability and framework in assessment efforts.

Submitted by: Angela Palmer,
Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Student Life