

Assessment Steering Committee Meeting Minutes – February 20, 2006

Members Present: Chris Crawford, Paul Adams, Sally Schmidt, Craig Karlin, Fred Britten, Ed Howell, Tim Crowley, Brett Zollinger, Amy Finch, Shala Mills, Hong Wang, Kiley Eisenhour, Dan Kulmala, and Regi Wieland

Members Absent: Curt Brungardt, Rose Arnhold, and Matt Means

Next Meeting: Monday, March 27, 2006, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Trails Room, MU

I. Call to order

- Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chris Crawford.

II. Strategy Forum Update

Chris shared AQIP Strategy Forum highlights and shared the strategic initiatives that came out of the Strategy Forum:

- Focus on student learning outcomes
- Mobile computing
- Targeted access in enrollment
- Strategic planning (new strategic plan by July 2006)
- Internationalism (campus and curriculum)

This committee will be instrumental in the first initiative, focus on student learning outcomes.

Craig Karlin shared information about the First Year Experience initiative, which is an initiative to assist freshmen to be more successful with the college experience. Craig also shared that Student Affairs is also moving toward revising its affinity diagrams for the various departments. For example, for retention and recruitment issues, there needs to be an integration of student affairs and academic affairs to address these issues. It was asked whether there are data concerning retention for undecided majors. Dr. Faber prepares a report every Spring concerning undecided majors. Chris will ask for that information from Dr. Faber.

The Year of the Department's Academic Audit initiative addresses the reviewing of affinity diagrams and its relationship to student assessments. This year a fifth column will be added to the affinity diagrams for "results", then next year a sixth column will be added, which would be a form of feedback: "what have you done with it." Dr. Adams suggested including a time element in this column, such as "when do you think you will see a change."

Chris also reported that FHSU was the only university to bring a student representative and classified staff representative to the AQIP Strategy Forum. Kiley Eisenhower said that she will be preparing a powerpoint presentation for presentation to SGA concerning AQIP.

III. Writing Across the Curriculum

Dan Kulmala reported on the activities of the Writing Across the Curriculum committee. Regi Wieland is also on the committee. A three-phase direction is considered: explore, enhance, and expand. The "explore" phase will include gathering of information campus-wide of writing assignments through surveys (focus on undergraduate); then write a report outlining options for writing based on the information gathered. The "enhance" phase will include development of writing-enhanced courses, encouragement of writing in technology; and encouragement of faculty to create these types of classes. Writing forums are also being considered. The "expand" phase will include information literacy, professional writing opportunities, and showcase writing. Studies found that the element of time is an issue – time for students to write; time for teachers to teach and evaluate student writing. Time is a challenge both for high schools and universities.

IV. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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