

# Assessment Steering Committee Meeting Minutes – July 28, 2004

- Members Present:** Chris Crawford, Rose Arnhold, Fred Britten, Tim Crowley, Craig Karlin, and Sally Schmidt.
- Members Absent:** Paul Adams, Shala Bannister, Sue Boos, Curt Brungardt, Kiley Eisenhour, Cindy Elliott, Larry Getty, Brian Kinnaird, Matt Means, David Schmidt, Regi Wieland, and Brett Zollinger.
- Others Present:** Paul Faber
- Next Meeting:** Thursday, September 9, 2004  
3:00-4:00 p.m. - Trails Room
- 

## I. Announcements

- Meeting called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Chris Crawford.
- Agenda and other supporting documents were distributed.

## II. General Education/Senior Assessment

- Presentation by Dean Faber: Dean Faber gave a presentation on the general education and senior assessment surveys given to students each year.

Senior survey: The senior survey is sent to graduating senior one month before the spring semester begins. There are two parts of the survey: (1) program satisfaction and evaluation; and (2) retrospective class evaluation. The students are asked to evaluate the general education classes that they have taken. The responses are classified “strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree and strongly disagree.” The university has used this survey since 1993. Dean Faber shared findings of years 1999-2003. The 2004 data is still being processed at the time of this presentation. The retrospective class evaluations are not analyzed or used if there are not more than 15 responses for a particular gen-ed class, because the responses would most likely not be representative.

General education survey: Six sections are evaluated each semester (out of approximately 50 general education classes) (rotated each semester). The results of this survey are evaluated for general trends, not longitudinal

analysis. However, if deviations are greater than 15% then they become diagnostic.

The committee asked of Dr. Faber if the general education committee has made any conclusions or has considered any adaptations to the present general education curriculum based on the results of past surveys. Dr. Faber said that the committee has had some discussions but no definite changes to the gen-ed program or development of new classes have been suggested.

The committee generally discussed the surveys and their results. Missing from the surveys is an evaluation as to the quality of the students' major program. There was also a concern that the students' perception is probably low as to their education when actually their general education is more valuable than they perceive.

The committee asked if the general education committee would consider an approach in which it would be review three gen-ed class in each department and evaluate whether those classes are meeting the same needs of a 2000 student as it did a 1993 student. Also, would the committee consider whether 55 general education courses are adequate; should it be more or less? There was also discussion as to how the BGS students' evaluations differ from BA or BS students' surveys.

### **III. Future Actions**

- Chris Crawford asked committee members to bring with them to the next meeting the NSSE data report so that they can begin reviewing/discussing it in detail. If members need another copy of the data report, copies are available.
- Chris will invite Doug Drabkin to a future meeting to discuss the "aims of education."

### **IV. Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

### **VI. Next Meeting**

- Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. in the Trails Room in the Memorial Union.