

SAAC

Student Achievement Assessment Committee

Meeting Minutes

12/15/06

In attendance:

Kathryn Andrus, Teaching and Learning Center
 Greg Augspurger, Student Success Center
 Jeff Broker, Biology, LAS
 Deb Dew, Professional Writing Program
 Don Gardner, College of Business
 Kelli Klebe, Psychology, LAS
 Mary Ann Kluge, Beth-El College of Nursing/Health Sci.
 Robyn Marschke, Institutional Research
 David Moon, Committee Chair & AVCAA

Kristin Rice, Institutional Research/TLC
 Judith Rice-Jones, Library

Absent:

Lindy Crawford, College of Education
 Hannah Deitrich, Graduate Student
 Garrett Gibson, Graduate Student
 Michelle Mullenax, Undergraduate Student
 Lew Pinson, Computer Science

Item/Activity Covered	Who will Follow-up	When
<p>NCA Visit: David summarized what he learned at the NCA exit session. Two assessment items received a ‘needs attention’ statement which is the lowest issue level. In the learning section of the self-study UCCS needs to continue the development of a culture of assessment. In the advancement section, improved assessment of the on-line learning environment was mentioned. Overall the visitors were impressed with the general education assessment and thought that our plan, with a measure for every objective, was strong and competitive. We are urged to continue and progress in the area of program assessment, most specifically in the area of using results for improvement and the roles played within the departments. With this somewhat open-ended mandate from NCA – where should we go from here? Where would we like to be in 10 years at our next accreditation visit? Some thoughts from the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course objectives on every syllabi • College C & R committees include assessment within their processes • More benchmarking on MFTs, more use of national/comparable testing • College requirements include sustainability and information technology competencies • General education includes these areas as well • Detailed mapping of the assessment processes in a dynamic way • Mapping of course and degree objectives to general education • Improved SIS that would prohibit registration without required prerequisites • At the minimum all program have and use the results of their assessments to improve their programs/student learning • Be able to say that all general education goals have been met and addressed by the colleges in a sufficient way • Integration of campus goals within departmental objectives. Institutionalize the general education conversation at the college level. Establish a forum for receiving that data for responses and feedback. • WEAVEonline utilized to advance progress in program assessment and the alignment of program objectives with other campus goals, strategic plan and general education. 	David	Jan/Feb

Without the carrot/stick of NCA we need to challenge ourselves to think about what it will take to make assessment as REALISTIC, POSSIBLE, USEFUL and DESIREABLE as possible. Perhaps reinstate the excellent unit awards. Letting down our guard until a few years before the next NCA visit would be fatal to assessment at UCCS. We need to articulate the argument that we cannot let assessment languish. It is hoped that the new provost will ‘get’ assessment and will be capable to assist in ‘selling it’ to deans and faculty who understand, see its value, and buy in to the process. The SAAC is crucial to the assessment process.

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Mini-Grants: Successful mini-grant awardees were notified on Friday, December 15th. The following principle investigators received the grants: Gene Abrams, Elissa Auther, Suzanne Byrley, Elaine Cheeseman, and Mary Ann Kluge.

Kristin

As
Needed

Progress Report Status: Almost 2/3 of the progress reports have been submitted. There are currently 23 reports outstanding. The evaluation of progress reports should be submitted in hardcopy or via e-mail by Dec. 22. The remaining reports will be distributed as they are received. Evaluators can expect 2-4 more reports.

Kristin and
Report
Reviewers

As
Needed

WEAVEonline: Our portal to the program is up and running. Please take a moment to log in to the system and check out the features. The web address is: <https://www.weaveonline.net/subscriber/uccs/> log in directions are on this page. At our next meeting I will walk us through the data entry process that we expect units to follow during the next report cycle. Trainings to use WEAVE and an overview of the purpose/development/use of assessment process/data will take place in spring. Committee member feedback as to what this training should look like is requested.

Kristin

Next
Meeting

Block Grant: After the purchase of WEAVEonline, a clicker purchase/training, and the mini-grant money distribution there is a remainder of about \$250. This money is earmarked for the upcoming WEAVEonline/Assessment overview in spring.

Kristin

As
Needed

Annual Report: A discussion of the overarching purpose of the annual report. A decision was made to 1) have the report ready at the beginning of fall semester and 2) that the issue should highlight our assessment accomplishments perhaps comparing where we were 5-7 years ago to where we are now.

Kristin

As
Needed

MAPP: We will begin testing general education knowledge/abilities in Jan/Feb using the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress. We attempt to test about 60 students in each undergraduate college. Although David works with the associate deans to get classes in which to administer this test, SAAC members should be aware of the purpose of this test (general education instrument) and assist their colleges in any way possible.

Kristin

As
Needed

Biology: Jeff Broker described an issue of validity within a new instrument that the department has implemented for assessment purposes. Students were asked to answer 5 questions in each of the main core classes. In some classes extra credit was given. Some issues include: participation for extra credit often interests students doing poorly in courses, motivating students to do the assessment/doing it to the best of their abilities, how to use the results if validity is an issue and how to overcome the validity issues.

10. Next meeting will be Friday, **January 19th** from 11:30 – 1:30 in COH 2036.