

University Academic Assessment Committee

Minutes, 10/11/11

Present: Sanford Berg, Tim Brophy, Margaret Fields, Joanne Foss, Cheryl Gater, Anne Kendall, Mark Law, Bernard Mair, Barbara Pace, David Pharies, Theresa Vernetson, Michael Weigold, Marie Zeglen

Welcome

Tim Brophy congratulated Joanne Foss on her election as Co-Chair of the committee.

Minutes from April 25, 2011

Theresa Vernetson noted that Elayne Colon's name was misspelled in the minutes.

A motion was made by Michael Wiegold and seconded by Margaret Fields to accept the minutes from the September 13, 2011 meeting. The motion passed.

CALS ALC revision proposal

Wildlife Ecology and Conservation requested approval of a revision in the method of assessment of SLOs.

A motion was made by David Pharies and seconded by Barbara Pace to approve the change in assessment method of the Wildlife Ecology and Conservation SLOs. The motion passed.

PHHP ALC revision proposal

The Masters in Public Health program requested approval of a change in the assessment of SLOs. It was unclear to the committee whether all students take the CPH (Certified in Public Health) exam which is the assessment method for knowledge of public health. Joanne Foss will follow up with the program to clarify.

A motion was made by Mark Law and seconded by Anne Kendall to conditionally approve the change in assessment method of the Masters in Public Health SLOs as long as all students take the CPH examination. The motion passed.

Assessment Survey results

Tim Brophy and Cheryl Gater analyzed the results of the Assessment Survey that the committee conducted last year. Eighty-four undergraduate programs responded to the survey. A wide range of assessment methods is used and a variety of groups are involved in the analysis of data although the most common method was a single individual and a committee. Curriculum or course modifications have been made based on the data by 68% of programs. 98% of programs were not clear in their reports about the status of alignment of SLOs and assessments. Requiring programs to develop a formal academic assessment plan might help in providing the documentation for SACS that assessment is occurring and data are used for program improvement.

Academic Assessment Overview

Tim Brophy described the groups that are helping to inform him about assessment at the university. He works with the Director of SACS Accreditation, Cheryl Gater, and the Chair of the Quality Enhancement Plan, David Miller. The University Assessment Committee, a Dean's Advisory Group and an External

Advisory Group provide input and advice. Tim has recently constituted these latter two groups. The Internationalization Task Force provides input to David Miller. A SACS Leadership Team of administrators that will be meeting to prepare for SACS reaccreditation also works with Tim, Cheryl and David.

Tim discussed the document he prepared on developing an Academic Assessment Plan to assist programs in developing a more comprehensive process within their programs.

Student Focus Group results

Tim and Cheryl convened a focus group with Reitz Scholars to learn what they know about ALCs. None of them had heard of ALCs but said they thought it was important for students to be informed. A variety of approaches to doing this were discussed.

General Education Assessment Sub-Committee

A sub-committee of the General Education Committee to make recommendations on assessment of General Education at UF for the upcoming SACS review has been formed. Theresa Vernetson is Chairing the committee. The Assessment Committee will be kept informed of their recommendations.

Internalization Task Force

The Task Force will be issuing a report soon of their recommendations on implementing internationalization of the curriculum that will include recommendations on assessing that process as well.