

## University Assessment Committee

8:30-10:00am, Tuesday, November 18, **Welch 111**

### Meeting Minutes

#### In Attendance

Susann DeVries (EMU Library), Chris Karshin (CHHS), Beth Kubitskey (COE), Kate Mehuron (CAS), Wade Tornquist (COT), Bin Ning (IRIM), Mary Brake (COT), Doug Baker (CAS), LaVerne Higgins (COB)

#### Suggestions for next time

- Re-examine the purpose of the forum (e.g., either “showcase” or a “how to,” maybe per college)
- We need to be helpful
- Use the forum at a time to highlight other events throughout the year
- Maybe different stages or aspects of learning how to do assessment – so can pre-register for particular workshops (e.g., how to do assessment, how to use rubrics, etc.)
- Maybe have poster opportunities throughout the day
- New faculty members might not be able to incorporate assessment at classroom level, program level, etc.
- Can we post information (e.g., speaker’s workshop) online (post conference) – slides are available (Kate)
- Show more improvement models (i.e., how assessment improved learning)
- Do not have a panel of administrators (e.g., audience members took “pot shots”)
- Consider only one session at a time slot (some people critiqued having concurrent sessions)
- Use presentations at forum for potential talks (e.g., at library or other events)
- Could have the forum at a different time of year (e.g., January or February)
- Chris K: they are going to host a mid-year assessment forum
- Consider ways to gather testimonies from people who have learned from incorporating assessments

#### 1. Feedback from Fall Assessment Forum

- a. Positive news: Provost liked it; general feedback – about 60%+ very positive (overall, 60-40); good keynote speaker. The suggestion is “more hands on” activities. Chemistry was a great example. CANVAS did a nice job presenting their information. Overall, this committee felt the effort was worth it. Great keynote! Kudos to Peggy for inviting the keynote.
- b. Lessons learned: cost minimal; need to focus on purpose more. Would be useful to see how what presenters learned about *how* to assess and make choices from it.
- c. Future plans: Continue this event every two years. Maybe next year, a more focused event (e.g., focus on Gen Ed or assess cross-curriculum outcomes). So, maybe next broad event will be Fall 2016. Continue to help people see why something is important.
- d. TO DO: put keynote speaker’s notes/slides online; video might be online (YouTube). We will revisit this next year (time pending, upon further discussion). CHHS will have an event in winter; Library will work with Student Success (Ellen). Need to do survey to find out needs of faculty for assessment (in January/February).

## **2. Progress update (all)**

- a. 2014-15 cycle update
- b. In December we will talk about template for evaluating reports
- c. Gen Ed: Doug describes update and “Phase One.”
- d. CAS: Doug describes update, including shifting planning stages to fall.
- e. COE: Beth describes update. Advising Center working with a system (Adobe form) to track advising and link to survey on what students have learned from advising. Planning to hire two new advisors.
- f. CHHS: Chris is planning an assessment event in winter. Will respond to reports in winter.
- g. Library: Susann is planning to invite Ellen to work with faculty in library. Working with CANVAS to see how to get involvement in L&S.
- h. COT: Mary & Wade suggested changes to faculty: deleted the five college-level SLOs, allowing programs to focus on their own SLOs and avoiding confusion; added language for programs to develop a five-year assessment plan.
- i. COB: LaVerne describes college meeting that will have a meeting on assessment; also discussed expectations of accrediting body. Provided example of a faculty member who has developed as a proponent of assessment.
- j. IRIM: Bin suggests we need to get engaged in CANVAS, which EMU has already purchased. So, begin with a small group of faculty and train them to see the possibilities. Bill Jones and CANVAS very supportive. Honors College is interested in serving on this group; however, if it is not offering its own courses, then no need to be on University committee.

### **Additional Suggestions**

Susann suggested building on “Why I Work at EMU”: Why I use assessment? LaVerne suggested “assurance of student learning.” Focus on student learning.

Next meeting: 8:30-10:00am, Tuesday, December 16, Welch 111.