Assessment Council  
February 11, 2014

Presiding Officer: Dr. Keri Franklin, Director, Office of Assessment

Members Present: Jan Atwell, Kelly Cara, Rachelle Darabi, Bill Edgar, Keri Franklin, Dana Frederick, Lyn Gattis, Sarah Gray, Shyang Huang, Taylor Mize, Diana Piccolo, James Sottile, Sue Webb

Members Not Present: Peter Collins, Lisa Hall, Crystal Gale, Tabitha Haynes, Mary Ann Jennings, Thomas Lane, Juan Meraz, Libby Rozell, Patti Salinas, Rachel Schober, Christi Sudbrock

Call to Order: 3:30 PM

Announcements:
- QIP Workshop in May – accepting applications for reviewers
  - James Sottile, Rachelle Darabi, Sue Webb, and Diana Piccolo interested in reviewing
  - Can students submit their own work online?
- NSSE Coffee Breaks going on all semester – Assessment Council invited to attend

New Business:
- Council for General Education and Interdisciplinary Programs (CGEIP)
  - Perceptions and awareness of CGEIP?
  - Recommendations for future progress?
    - CGEIP is one of the more time-intensive committees on campus.
    - CGEIP Chairperson changes each year and must have a great deal of commitment.
      - How do we make CGEIP more manageable so as not to fall on one person?
      - With the amount of turn-over on CGEIP, how can we maintain consistency?
      - Recommendations:
        ▪ Assessment Council liaison for CGEIP.
        ▪ Provost Fellows to support CGEIP.
        ▪ Staff person committed to CGEIP for continuity.
  - What is the role of CGEIP with regard to assessment?
    - To ask “Are students learning what General Education courses intend for them to learn?”
    - Is CGEIP looking at learning outcomes of a course or specific sections?
    - Recommendations:
      ▪ Ensure assessment is not about a faculty member but the courses’ student learning outcomes.
      ▪ CGEIP or Assessment Council to provide a yearly educational training on how to assess learning outcomes in General Education.
- Plans for March Assessment Council
  - Conduct SWOT analysis on the assessment plans of five randomly selected general education courses
  - Assessment Council to provide recommendation to CGEIP and Provost
    - What differentiates informal and formal assessment?
    - How can we get people to view “informal” in a different way?
    - What is the next step for Assessment Council? (Discussed in small groups)
o Group 1 – Bring some examples to Assessment Council. There is a disconnect between the faculty and CGEIP. We need to bridge the gap.

o Group 2 – Some departments have external accreditation, so they meet annually on assessment plans. Still, it would be great to have some innovative ideas on how to meet and measure outcomes.

o Group 3 – The existing plan is very democratic, but there is no clear internal structure to provide consistency in evaluating general education from year to year. We need to be consistent so faculty can know what is expected.

o Group 4 – Identify strong departmental plans and share with other departments as a sample outline. For example, Fall: Collect Data, Spring: Analyze, Summer: Create a plan of action. All programs can collect annually.

o Group 5 – Could use a course evaluation form. Be able to answer, “What does CGEIP want to see out of a general education course? What should students be able to do as a result of their general education?”

**Tabled Discussions:**
- Revised General Education Program
- National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) optional modules
- GEN 4990 University Exit Exam - Need feedback on add-on questions and Public Affairs Scale

**Follow-up Assessment Council meeting Wednesday, February 26, at 3:30 PM in Carrington 203**

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:50 PM