

University Assessment Committee
Minutes of the September 27, 2006 Meeting
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Louise Morden Board Room

In Attendance: Larry Ewing, David Fox, Dennis Gresdo, Scott Hageman, Ed Hight, Dennis Kerkman, Evelyn Knowles, Nicolas Koudou, Peter McCandless, Pete Soule, and John Tew

I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Co-Chair Scott Hageman.

II. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August 30, 2006 meeting were approved.

III. Opening Remarks: Scott informed the committee that the Assessment Plan for 2006-2007, as revised by the committee and Dr. Droge since our last meeting, has been distributed to all Department Chairs and Program Coordinators and is now available on the Assessment website. He asked committee members to help make sure faculty members in our areas are aware of this plan.

IV. Old Business/Reports:

- A. Fall Tri-Modal Study: John Tew, Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA), reported that he has begun the process of working with Departments and Programs to ensure that they will be collecting and submitting the assessment documentation needed for the Fall Tri-Modal courses.

V. New Business/Discussion:

- A. Alternative Scoring Guides: Discussion was held on the standards that the committee would use for approving “alternative scoring guides” for Core Assessments. Specific issues discussed included:
 - 1. Inclusion of discipline specific terminology – especially because of the different expectations for the Graduate School.
 - 2. Whether or not they had to use the same format as the current Core Assessment Rubric form.
 - 3. Evidence of critical thinking is expected as part of our Mission Statement and General Education program.
 - 4. How many categories may be necessary based on results from factor analysis.
 - 5. Use of other scoring methods (e.g., percentages).
- B. A consensus agreement was reached that Programs and Departments will be allowed, upon approval by the UAC, to use alternative rubric/scoring guide formats and scoring systems provided that they contain evidence of criteria for assessing the level of student competence in:
 - 1. Critical thinking
 - 2. Effective communication
 - 3. Discipline-specific abilities, including:

- a. Key discipline concepts, and/or
 - b. Discipline terminology, and/or
 - c. Essential technical skills, as appropriate for the course
- C. The committee voted unanimously to approve the alternative Core Assessment Rubric developed by the Art Department for any of their non-GE/LL/Tri-Modal courses, provided that a category is added for discipline-specific abilities.
- D. The committee voted unanimously to approve the History Program Assessment Plan.
- E. The committee voted unanimously to approve the Athletic Training Program Assessment Plan.
- F. Review of additional Program Assessment Plans: A plan was established to have the committee members work in sub-groups according to disciplinary specialties in order to more efficiently handle the review and approval of all remaining Program Assessment Plans.

VI. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: David Fox

Minutes Approved By: