Define and Decide on Terminology:

The Student Affairs Assessment Council crafted the following definitions in an effort to create a common language around assessment activity in the division. It was acknowledged that there are various types of assessment, but for the purposes of this exercise, we would be focusing on “outcomes” assessment and more specifically, “student learning outcomes” assessment.

| Mission* = | Describes the purpose of the organization and the constituents served. |
| Goal (same as Objective)* = | A broad general statement of what a program wants its constituents to know or do. Must be connected to the mission. |
| Outcome (can be same as Learning Objective)* = | More detailed and specific statements derived from the goals. These are specifically about what you want the end result of your efforts to be. For student learning outcomes, they are not what you are going to do to the student, but rather what you want the student to know or do. |
| Methods** = | The criteria, process, and tools used to collect evidence that indicates whether or not the outcomes have been met. |
| Results*** = | Evidence by outcome |
| Evaluation*** = | Analysis of the evidence |
| Follow-up*** = | How the evidence informs future decisions and recommendations on program, as well as how evidence informs future assessment activity. |

Tips for Assessors:

- Be clear about who you are focusing on?
- Give examples of each definition
- Document the assessment process
- Keep it simple at first – sophistication and complexity will come
- Honor the assessment work that has already been done

*Group definition paraphrased using Breciani definitions
**Blending of Eric and Lisa’s notes
***Group didn’t get to. Eric’s shot at a definition.
Announcement:
We will likely be sending a team of folks to the NC State Symposium in April—please let Rebecca know if you are interested.

Dates: April 14-18—for details about the symposium see the NC State assessment website

Next Meeting: last meeting of the term

December 10, 2003 9:00-10:30 in Hawley Hall Conference Room

Agenda items to date: Set meeting times for next term; Review the YFCY report and provide feedback to Rebecca; Discuss target dates for reports.