

Student Affairs Assessment Council

Minutes

March 2, 2005

Attendance: Eric Hansen, Kami Smith, Sheila Roberts, Pat Ketcham, Beth Dyer, Ryan Collay, Susie Leslie, Kent Sumner, Lisa Hoogesteger, Jo Frederic, Gina Shellhammer, Rebecca Sanderson

Assessment Plans:

--How are we progressing? Is the process working?

--What do folks need?

Generally, folks seemed to be progressing in their review of assessment plans. Some are needing to wait until the beginning of spring term to meet because of other commitments at this time. The process seems to be working in terms of people learning from others as the plans are reviewed. The issue of when to present the plans to the group arose and some wanted to talk individually with the plan writers before any presentation to the group. It was agreed that the order in which the plans are presented to the group and to the individual writer was up to the reviewers. The intent of the review is to help people improve in their plans and to assess where future training, etc. needs to happen. Also since different departments are handling the assessment process differently, the person who wrote the plan probably needs to be consulted in terms of which order they want the plan presented.

Review of Assessment Plan

Eric and Kami reviewed the Student Affairs Research and Evaluation assessment plan with the group. Overall, several themes emerged including:

- Need to have better definition or markers for “capacity” in the goal statement. Though this can be articulated in the outcomes, may need to acknowledge that the outcomes may not measure the entire range of factors that make up “capacity.”
- Plan seemed easy to follow from one section to another and each section related and was understood/clear.
- Mission may need to be examined to make more clear—hard to see the core purpose.
- Some of the measurements are “counting” measures and may need to think about other ways to determine learning.
- Better articulation of how the plan was developed may be needed to clarify how plan is shared, etc.
- Use of Rubric—some of the language overlaps and may need to be cleaned up or other words used to make the intent clearer.

(Overall good review of the plan from Rebecca’s perspective)

West Virginia Model

Rebecca also presented a document developed at the West Virginia University that lays out in a matrix the Student Affairs Learning goals for students and then each learning outcomes for all departments and which goal they link to. Rebecca offered this as a way in which we may want to consider aligning plans/outcomes to a larger set of goals—like at the division level.

The group discussed this with some energy and seemed to express that this was something that could help us organize some of our own thinking about how to focus our efforts. It would also help in the attempt to roll up our outcomes to a larger division story.

Rebecca was asked to send the web link to the council. It is also included below:

<http://www.wvu.edu/~studaff/eat/index.html>.

Other?

Set time for Spring Term meeting days. The group decided to continue on Wednesday's at 11:00am. Rebecca will get the dates set and send out to everyone.

Next Meeting is March 17 at 10:00am in MU 110.