

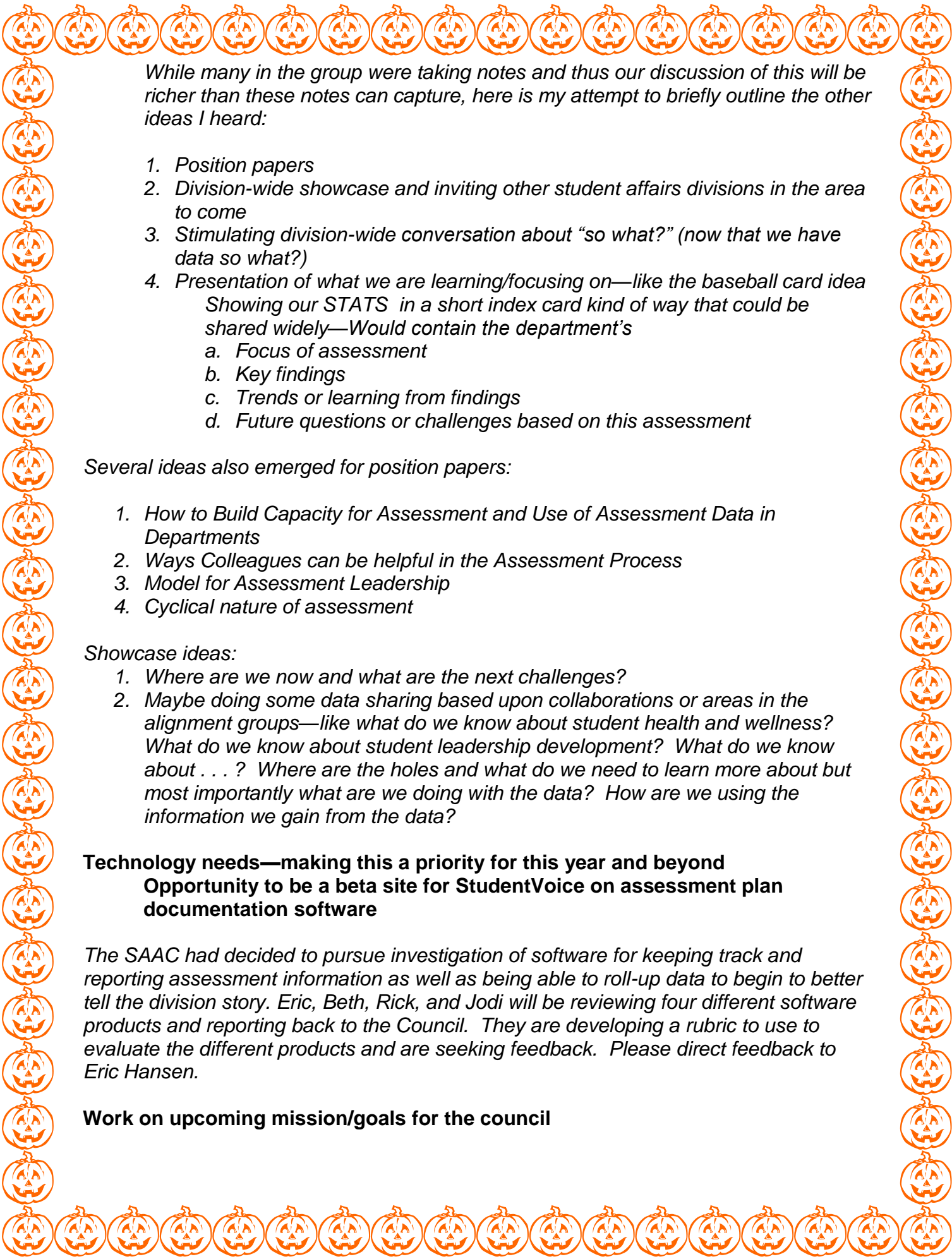
Attendance: Melissa Yamamoto, Kami Hammerschmith, Eric Hansen, Ann Robinson, Barbara Cormack, Pat Ketcham, Linda Reid, Jodi Nelson, Rosemary Garagnani, Jo Alexander, Tina Clawson, Bob Kerr, Beth Dyer, Kent Sumner, Lisa Hoogesteger, Claire Bennett, Edie Blakley, Allison Davis-White Eyes, Rebecca Sanderson, Larry Roper

Discussion with Larry

Are we as a council going in the right direction and/or are there things we need to be looking at for the future?

Larry thanked the group for the work we are doing and said that he believed we have been and are going in the right direction. In terms of the future or other things we might want to consider, he challenged us to think about doing more with the evaluation part of assessment. Specifically, he indicated that the SAAC was in a unique position to provide position papers or opinion papers that could be important for our organization to engage in work around or at least intentional conversation. These would be position papers that arise from our knowledge of our data and that could have broad impact for the Division. They also could "put a stake in the ground" around some issues so that the departmental rep would not be the only one saying something but would come from a more unified and supported voice.

This led to further discussion and other ideas for how to go deeper into the organization to help people become more engaged in assessment and using data to inform decisions, program planning, etc.

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While many in the group were taking notes and thus our discussion of this will be richer than these notes can capture, here is my attempt to briefly outline the other ideas I heard:

- 1. Position papers*
- 2. Division-wide showcase and inviting other student affairs divisions in the area to come*
- 3. Stimulating division-wide conversation about “so what?” (now that we have data so what?)*
- 4. Presentation of what we are learning/focusing on—like the baseball card idea*
Showing our STATS in a short index card kind of way that could be shared widely—Would contain the department’s
 - a. Focus of assessment*
 - b. Key findings*
 - c. Trends or learning from findings*
 - d. Future questions or challenges based on this assessment*

Several ideas also emerged for position papers:

- 1. How to Build Capacity for Assessment and Use of Assessment Data in Departments*
- 2. Ways Colleagues can be helpful in the Assessment Process*
- 3. Model for Assessment Leadership*
- 4. Cyclical nature of assessment*

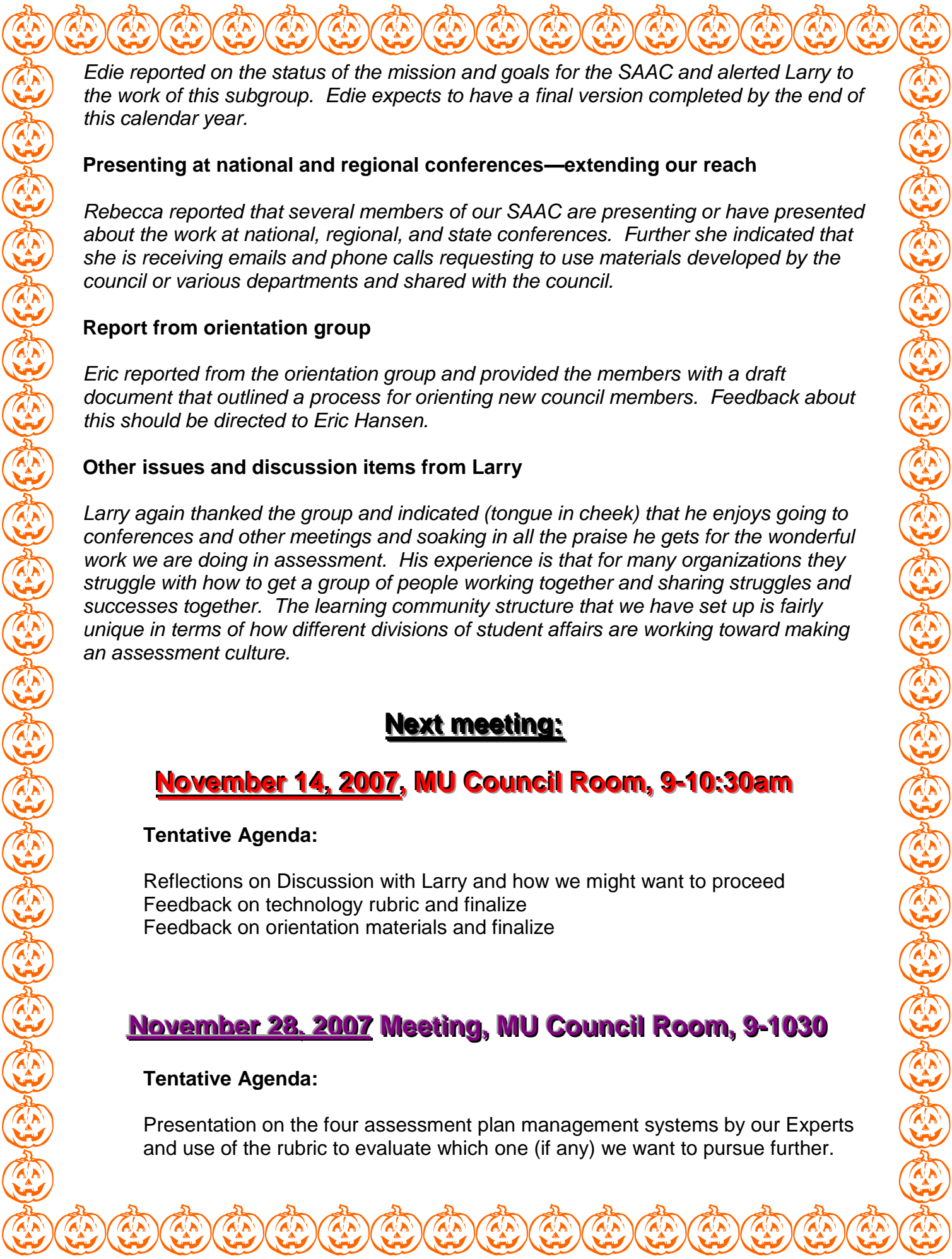
Showcase ideas:

- 1. Where are we now and what are the next challenges?*
- 2. Maybe doing some data sharing based upon collaborations or areas in the alignment groups—like what do we know about student health and wellness? What do we know about student leadership development? What do we know about . . . ? Where are the holes and what do we need to learn more about but most importantly what are we doing with the data? How are we using the information we gain from the data?*

Technology needs—making this a priority for this year and beyond
Opportunity to be a beta site for StudentVoice on assessment plan documentation software

The SAAC had decided to pursue investigation of software for keeping track and reporting assessment information as well as being able to roll-up data to begin to better tell the division story. Eric, Beth, Rick, and Jodi will be reviewing four different software products and reporting back to the Council. They are developing a rubric to use to evaluate the different products and are seeking feedback. Please direct feedback to Eric Hansen.

Work on upcoming mission/goals for the council

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Edie reported on the status of the mission and goals for the SAAC and alerted Larry to the work of this subgroup. Edie expects to have a final version completed by the end of this calendar year.

Presenting at national and regional conferences—extending our reach

Rebecca reported that several members of our SAAC are presenting or have presented about the work at national, regional, and state conferences. Further she indicated that she is receiving emails and phone calls requesting to use materials developed by the council or various departments and shared with the council.

Report from orientation group

Eric reported from the orientation group and provided the members with a draft document that outlined a process for orienting new council members. Feedback about this should be directed to Eric Hansen.

Other issues and discussion items from Larry

Larry again thanked the group and indicated (tongue in cheek) that he enjoys going to conferences and other meetings and soaking in all the praise he gets for the wonderful work we are doing in assessment. His experience is that for many organizations they struggle with how to get a group of people working together and sharing struggles and successes together. The learning community structure that we have set up is fairly unique in terms of how different divisions of student affairs are working toward making an assessment culture.

Next meeting:

November 14, 2007, MU Council Room, 9-10:30am

Tentative Agenda:

Reflections on Discussion with Larry and how we might want to proceed
Feedback on technology rubric and finalize
Feedback on orientation materials and finalize

November 28, 2007 Meeting, MU Council Room, 9-1030

Tentative Agenda:

Presentation on the four assessment plan management systems by our Experts and use of the rubric to evaluate which one (if any) we want to pursue further.