

Program Review and Assessment Committee
December 16, 2011, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m., UL 1126
Minutes

Present: K. Alfrey (Chair), R. Aaron, E. Ardemagni, T. Banta, K. Black, J. Defazio, B. Gushrowski, M. Hansen, C. Hayes, S. Horton-Deutsch, R. Huisman, J. Johnson, S. Kahn, J. Lee, L. McGuire, H. Mzumara, B. Orme, G. Pike, S. Scott, J. Singh, C. K. Smith, K. Steinberg, R. Stocker, K. Wendeln, K. Wills, D. Winikates, E. Wood, M. Yard

1. November Meeting Minutes: accepted as circulated

2. Updates

- From the 2012 Committee, T. Banta reported that four of five self-study chapter drafts have been completed and forwarded to IUPU Columbus and to the criterion committees for comments and additions. Town Hall sessions for community discussion of the revised drafts have been scheduled for the period from late February through early April.
- T. Banta also explained that IU is reviewing commercial software for assessment data management. She will forward to committee members information about the schedule of online vendor presentations and how to participate.
- On behalf of the Program Review Subcommittee, K. Black explained the rationale for changes made to the new guidelines for program review at IUPUI. Most changes serve to (1) clarify options intended to provide flexibility and reduce duplication of effort for units undertaking review that may also have disciplinary accreditation; (2) integrate questions for graduate programs; and (3) provide a sample rubric. This rubric may be used by PRAC members providing feedback to department chairs as they finalize their self studies. The new guidelines - are posted on the PRAC web site.
- G. Pike updated members about plans for NSSE administration this year. NSSE has changed its procedures to survey all first-year and all senior students rather than a sample of each, which should help us provide better unit-level data. Also, this year IUPUI will pilot a revised survey (“NSSE 2.0”) scheduled for implementation in 2012. The survey term will begin in mid-February and run for about eight weeks (six for the pilot). He asked members to encourage students to respond to NSSE and to be patient despite feeling over-surveyed this term. With the additional administrative reviews under way, some students could receive as many as six survey requests.

3. PRAC grant applications

- C. Hayes thanked the team that screened eight proposals from six departments. The subcommittee selected the four top-scoring proposals for circulation to the full PRAC membership. Approving these four would leave some funds for a small grant round in spring 2012. On motion from the subcommittee, the committee unanimously approved grants for:
 - Division of Liberal Arts, IUPUC General Education Initiative
 - Center for Service and Learning, Assessing Civic Learning Outcomes of Service Learning Courses and Community-Based Scholarship Programs

- Department of Biology, Assessment of Domain Knowledge-Based Student Learning Outcomes in Biology for Curriculum Enhancement
- Department of Physical Therapy, Assessment of Instructional Collaboration Using the Integrated Longitudinal Case-Based Learning Model to Enhance Teaching and Learning
- In subsequent discussion, K. Alfrey asked what changes members have noticed from adjustments made on the basis of previous assessment results. K. Wendeln described highly positive response from students to a new case on global sustainability. K. Alfrey reported improved student learning by engaging students more deeply with material through weekly quizzes on homework. She was gratified to see a recent article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* about memory and retention that supports this approach.

4. Teaching and assessing information literacy

- B. Orme, R. Stocker, and guest Rhonda Huisman of University Library (UL) followed up on the October PRAC discussion of approaches to improving student learning outcomes in the PUL 1c area of information literacy. They engaged members in discussing concepts associated with the phrase and the working definition adopted by the American Library Association and the IUPUI University Library.
- They then described an initiative being introduced by UL to support faculty in programs across the campus, working with the Center for Teaching and Learning to develop professional development opportunities. The Rubric Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (RAILS) project presented at the October meeting will support faculty review of student work using rubrics, and R. Huisman can set up in Oncourse a free online module from Kent State University for faculty to use in teaching and assessing information literacy. UL librarians will pilot their new approach this spring, with full implementation in Fall 2012 in Themed Learning Communities.
- PRAC members discussed how and where to embed information literacy in curricula. As one of the PULs, it is at least nominally integrated in courses, but it is seldom the major or even moderate emphasis in a course. Faculty may want to discuss how to scaffold information literacy in each program.

5. Election of PRAC 2012 vice-chair

- K. Alfrey reported that Katherine Wills of IUPUC was nominated as PRAC 2012 Vice Chair by the nominating subcommittee. The nomination was accepted by acclamation.
- M. Yard will become the 2012 PRAC Chair in January. On behalf of the committee, T. Banta thanked K. Alfrey for her leadership in 2011 as Chair and in 2010 as Vice Chair.

6. Adjournment at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded by S. Scott and respectfully submitted by M. Yard, 2011 Vice Chair