

**ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION GROUP**  
**December 13, 2007, 9:30am**  
**SUB Room 322**

**Those Present:** Glenn Wehner, Marty Eisenberg, John Bohac, Barbara Price, Scott Thatcher, Jeffrey Vittengl, Daette Maul, Karen Smith, Michael McManis, Maria Di Stefano, Dave Rector, Rachel Smith (in place of Nancy Asher)

- I. Student Interview Project—Jeffrey Vittengl passed around a sign-up sheet for those willing to participate in the Student Interview Project. There are various dates and times (1 hour time slots) in February, 2008, for which volunteers can sign up to interview 2 different students. Please contact Jeffrey Vittengl at [vittengl@truman.edu](mailto:vittengl@truman.edu) if you are interested in volunteering to help out with this project.
- II. Critical Thinking at Truman
  - A. Critical thinking has been designated an essential element of a Liberal Arts education by the Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum.
  - B. Truman has multiple measures for assessing critical thinking that all indicate we have room to improve the critical thinking skills of our students. We do not, however, understand the connection between our measures of critical thinking and our classroom practices. What goes on in the classroom, and what classroom measures are in place to develop students' critical thinking?
  - C. One way that we could discover the path to critical thinking is by interviewing students that have shown proof of these skills and asking them how they developed the skills. This may be a good interview topic for next year's Student Interview Project.
  - D. The Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum would likely be willing to sponsor a discussion next semester on critical thinking. Discussions on critical thinking ideally would occur early in the Spring 2008 semester.
  - E. A steering committee on improving critical thinking will also be formed, and this committee will work throughout next semester. Karen Smith, Scott Thatcher and Candy Young have volunteered to be on this committee; other volunteers are still needed.
- III. HERI Survey—Marty Eisenberg distributed a list of local questions from the most recent HERI faculty survey that was conducted. He would like members of DIG to find 4 or 5 questions from this list that they would recommend adding to the upcoming HERI survey.
- IV. The College Portrait and the Voluntary System of Accountability
  - A. Upon President Dixon's request, Marty Eisenberg and Garry Gordon recently signed Truman up to participate in the Portrait.
  - B. The Voluntary System of Accountability is very flexible for the institution.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

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