

## ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

April 4, 2002, 2:00pm  
VH 2151

**Those Present:** Ruthie Dare-Halma, Doug Davenport, Marie Orton, Vaughan Pultz, Dave Rector, Nancy Asher, Heidi Templeton, David Hoffman, Sarah Mohler, Steve Hadwiger, John Bohac, Michael McManis, Garry Gordon, David Gillette, Bryce Jones, Marty Eisenberg, Erika Woehlk

### I. Analysis Group

- The analysis group will still function as a part of the assessment committee with some overlap into the “core” assessment committee.
- Additionally, discipline consultants would be welcome to serve on the analysis group, especially those faculty who are interested in analyzing data and bettering the assessment program.
- Send an e-mail to Ruthie with names of volunteers for the analysis group.

### II. Computing Literacy Assessment Task Force

- There is a team of 9 or 10 people evaluating SmartForce. The Computer Science faculty like the course material. The evaluation team is waiting on the assessment module at the moment. The students who have reviewed SmartForce have had positive responses.

### III. Susan Hatfield Visit

- April 24 and 25. She will meet with division heads, some students (academic affairs committee of Student Senate & January Conference assessment breakout group students), Faculty Senate, portfolio director, SWE director, interview project director, Lou Ann Gilchrist, Nancy Asher and Dave Rector, David Christiansen and Erika Woehlk, and Garry Gordon.
- Ask Kay Anderson regarding staff and who would be best for Susan to see. Should RCP advisors be involved as well? E-mail Ruthie your thoughts.

### IV. Staff Survey

- Kay will help set up the pilot in a few weeks’ time. Tell Michael McManis if you are interested in helping out.

### V. Junior Test Subcommittee

- The subcommittee will meet following this meeting.

### VI. Tek.Xam Subcommittee

- Will use the Career Center to administer the test to the first group of students.

- The test will cost \$50 per student. There are 9 computers, for a total cost of \$450.
- Tek.Xam is not a computer literacy assessment. Rather, it is a certification program aimed at helping liberal arts students find jobs and careers after graduation.
- Truman (the Vice President's office) will pay for the first 9 students to use Tek.Xam. The justification for payment is that this will be a pilot. Further testing will be at the expense of the students.
- The GRE is changing in October 2002. The analytical section will be replaced with 2 written essays.

#### VII. Assessment Website

- The assessment website will be turned over to Erika Woehlk's ID. Once ITS switches it over, Erika will add the 2001 *Assessment Almanac* PDFs to the site.

#### VIII. Interview Project Progress

- 92 students were interviewed. The oral portions of the interviews have been recorded, but no data analysis has been performed yet.

#### IX. Sophomore Writing Experience Modification

- Sarah Mohler met with the composition committee. The committee had three concerns:
  - 1) Wanted more detail on what the assessment criteria will be
  - 2) Is \$15 going to be enough for the conference facilitators
  - 3) There will only be one reader (instead of two) for each portfolio
- The general feeling from the composition committee was that it is a good proposal, but they didn't want to support it until the University could fund it better. The committee will meet again to discuss the proposal.
- One thing Sue Pieper will do when she returns to Truman for her assessment internship will be to work on writing assessments. She will be a great asset to writing assessment and to the assessment committee, namely the analysis group.
- Should we implement the proposed SWE changes now or later? It's a matter of pleasing the most people at the most opportune time. Some students will be upset no matter what we decide. The most pressing issue now, though, is should we block the rest of the juniors who have not completed their SWE requirement from registering or not. There was considerable debate on this and other points. The committee decided to meet with Heinz Woehlk early tomorrow before making any decisions.
- The SWE is changing because it is not meeting its outcomes, not because of lack of funding.
- Questions to consider about the changing SWE: To what degree does the assessment committee give input? Do we feel good about the changes?

X. SPAC Assessment Report

- The main point to get across in this report was that nearly all focus groups, DAPs, etc. said that public relations and information dissemination are very important and need to be greatly improved.

XI. Other

- The committee will try to meet with Heinz Woehlk tomorrow at 7:00am about the SWE proposal to answer questions and clarify issues. Please check your e-mail this evening for meeting place and time.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22pm

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