

ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE ANALYSIS AND REPORTING GROUP

October 3, 2005, 4:30pm
Violette Hall 2151

Those Present: David Gillette, David Hoffman, Sue Pieper, Dean De Cock, Erika Woehlk, Tom Marshall, Dan Doman, John Ishiyama

- I. Assessment Grants Update – Erika Woehlk
 - A. The preliminary reports for the two 2005 grant recipients were due on September 1. One report has been received and the other is under development. Adam Davis’s report was distributed to the committee. Final reports are due December 1. A. Davis will present his findings at the October Assessment Colloquium.
 - B. There will be funds for 2006 assessment grants. **D. Gillette asked the ARG to submit updates or suggestions for improving the grant guidelines to him by October 10.** E. Woehlk will then post the guidelines online as soon as possible, send out a campus-wide e-mail announcing the grants, and advertise in Truman Today. The ARG suggests having the grant proposals submitted by Thanksgiving; this will allow for review to be completed by Winter Break.
- II. CSEQ Administration – David Gillette
 - A. The CSEQ was not administered to first-year students this fall. The DIG recommends administering it next year. However, the RCP is unwilling to fund the survey, so a problem arises as to where funds will come from. S. Pieper, D. Gillette, and E. Woehlk are meeting to discuss the university assessment budget, and the CSEQ is one of the issues they will address. Once their recommendations are ready, they will present them to the Vice President and the Design and Implementation Group.
 - B. In regard to the ARG’s research, having first-year students complete the CSEQ will be a tremendous help in building the database. We might even consider issuing the CXEQ instead, because that survey deals with college expectations and could yield some important “value-added” data.
- III. NSSE – Sue Pieper
 - A. The NSSE will be administered solely online in the spring. Last year, 60% of first-year students opted to complete it online as opposed to a paper copy.
 - B. Because we will be doing the survey online, NSSE will give us a much larger student sample to draw from: nearly the entire senior and first-year classes. This will be beneficial because we will be able to see results by discipline and division.
- IV. Student Engagement Project – John Ishiyama
 - A. The original charge from the Vice President was to produce data on retention and student success using various dependent and independent variables. J. Ishiyama’s reports from February and April 2005 fulfill this request in part.

- B. Suggestion for this year: Link the results of the Student Interview Project on service learning to our background information and examine engagement behaviors compared to retention, satisfaction, and student success.
- V. Possible New Areas of Research
- A. Garry Gordon's and Lou Ann Gilchrist's presentation from the July Master Plan and Assessment Workshop (<http://vpaa.truman.edu/communications/mpaw/2005/index.stm>) included some interesting data.
 - 1. Where did the statistic on suicide come from?
 - 2. What is the relationship between physical and mental health and learning?
 - 3. What pedagogies produce critical thinking?
 - B. The DIG also had some suggestions at its last meeting.
 - 1. Critical thinking and memorization.
 - 2. Social attitudes toward minorities.
 - C. The ARG suggests looking into buying databank software to house the results of all our assessment instruments. Creating a usable, searchable database will open doors for endless research opportunities and afford everyone on campus the opportunity to answer questions they have. SCT Banner might have something available in two years.
 - D. **Bring your ideas for one or more research question to the November ARG meeting.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

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