

2009-2010 Assessment Committee

April 14, 2010

2:30-3:30 P.M.

VH 2151

Members Present: Karen Smith, Adrien Presley, Joseph Sencibaugh, Andrei Klyukovski, Scott Alberts, Nancy Asher, Doug Davenport, Daette Lambert, Elaine McDuff

Members Absent: Paul Yoder, Erin Blankers, Maria Di Stefano, Marty Eisenberg, Troy Paino, Charles Tomlinson

- The Assessment Committee approved the March 16 minutes.
- K. Smith made a few announcements:
 - The Growth and Change Subcommittee has been moving slowly and will not give an update today.
 - Not much progress has been made with helping move Undergraduate Council forward on the LSP reviews.
 - D. Davenport, K. Smith and N. Asher attended the Higher Learning Commission Conference. Overall, Truman's assessment program is still strong.
- E. McDuff reported on the Student Interview Project:
 - The coding is done, and this year's results are very similar to last year's. Next year the Interview Project will focus on factors that contribute to academic stress.
- N. Asher discussed the Graduating Student Questionnaire (GSQ):
 - The Career Center tries to follow up with students 6 months after they have graduated. Having access to students' Banner IDs as listed on the GSQ would help them gather data, but to date they have not been granted access to these ID numbers. Rather than sharing this information from the GSQ, perhaps something could be created for the Career Center and the Advancement Office to share that would provide this data. This information has to be asked somewhere, but if the GSQ notifies students that their information will be shared they may choose not to list it. Maybe this data could be collected on the graduating information form rather than on the GSQ. Committee members will think about this issue and discussion will continue at the next meeting.
- S. Alberts reported on the Portfolio speaking rubric:
 - There are concerns with Portfolio readers having the proper training to evaluate the speeches and with the time it will take to evaluate them. It usually takes about 6 minutes to evaluate a paper, but the 15 minute speeches will take more time.
 - Over 180 speeches were recorded at this week's Student Research Conference, and those videos will be used during the summer readings to practice evaluating speeches. The readers will watch a video, evaluate it using the rubric, then the group will discuss the evaluation.
 - The last time Truman collected campus-wide data on speaking was in 1994, yet we claim that our students are strong speakers. Provost Paino has been very supportive of the speaking component even with its associated costs. Also, Diane Richmond has shown enthusiasm for this and greatly helped to set up classrooms so speeches can be recorded.
 - The speaking rubric has been through several edits already. The critical thinking component of the rubric is consistent with the critical thinking component of the other

rubrics. Undergraduate Council also plans to assign a task-force to look at the critical-thinking component.

- Send comments about the speaking rubric to S. Alberts. He will take this rubric to Undergraduate Council at the end of April.
- The Alumni Survey was reviewed and discussed:
 - Results indicate that our alumni are quite satisfied.
 - It might be useful to ask alumni what they consider to be their most transformative experience at Truman.
 - If we change a question on the survey, it will change the entire format of the survey and will include some expense.
 - Perhaps these surveys could be mailed electronically or a postcard could be mailed to direct the recipient to the survey online. Both of these options would reduce mailing costs and will be considered further before the next meeting where discussion will continue.
- Announcements:
 - There is an Assessment Committee meeting scheduled for May 4. Please come if you can. One item of discussion will be possible changes to the Assessment Almanac which K. Smith will work to edit over the summer.