

ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING
November 28, 2006, 3:30pm
Magruder Hall 2050

Those Present: Glenn Wehner, Erika Woehlk, John Bohac, Nancy Asher, Marty Eisenberg, Nabil Alghalith, Heidi Templeton, Bryce Jones, Michael McManis, Dave Rector, Karen Smith, Scott Thatcher, Jeffrey Vittengl, Steve Smith, Sue Pieper, Maria Di Stefano, Lou Ann Gilchrist, David Hoffman, Garry Gordon

- I. G. Wehner distributed handouts to the Committee. Members of both the Design and Implementation Group (DIG) and the Analysis and Reporting Group (ARG) were present. The handouts were:
 - A. A list of Committee members and their terms.
 - B. The Committee charge.
 - C. A packet summarizing the changes to the Assessment Program that the DIG made last year.
 - D. A grid of Truman's Assessment Program.
- II. G. Wehner gave a brief summary of Truman's Assessment Program. The grid shows which instruments Truman uses University-wide and who and what they assess.
- III. G. Wehner gave a summary of the changes that were made to the Assessment Program last year based on recommendations from the DIG.
 - A. The Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) will take the place of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) for seniors starting in Spring 2007.
 - B. The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) will be administered every other year starting in FY 2008.
 - C. The College Student Expectations Questionnaire (CSXQ) was administered to first-year students in FY2007 and will be put on a two-year rotation the Cooperative Institutional Research Project (CIRP).
 - D. The Portfolio Project was changed to a 32-hour work week instead of 40. To accomplish this reduction in hours, we will be sampling the Portfolios.
 - E. The College Student Experiences Questionnaire (CSEQ) will be administered to juniors in conjunction with the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) junior test.
 - F. Course evaluations for Science, Business & Accountancy, and Education Divisions will no longer be paid through the assessment budget.
 - G. Discussion with Assessment Committee
 1. What happened with the Praxis? Last semester the DIG was talking about shifting the cost of the Praxis to the Education Division rather than through the assessment budget.

E. Woehlk responded that the letter from the DIG to the VPAA gave three options: a) to shift the cost to the Education Division, b) to require MAE students to pay for the Praxis themselves, or c) no change. The VPAA opted for no change.

2. Since the CLA can only be administered in the Spring, how will Truman accommodate December graduates? S. Pieper and N. Asher answered that we will identify the December graduates during the Spring and that those students will take the CLA with the Spring graduates. However, this is a temporary, imperfect fix and we need to identify a better way to test the December and August graduates. S. Pieper said that the CLA folks do allow testing outside the regular window for special cases when students are studying abroad or are on internships. Perhaps an arrangement can be made between CLA and Truman for our December graduates. **The DIG will have to discuss this issue in the Spring and make a recommendation.**
 3. The critical thinking module of the CAAP was administered to students this semester. Should we stick with the same module for the Spring? **The Committee voted to administer the critical thinking module in the Spring.** In the future, we need to create a schedule of rotating modules. **This will be an agenda item for the DIG in the Spring.**
- IV. There are two upcoming assessment conferences. Please let S. Pieper know if you are interested in attending before you submit a proposal. The proposals for both conferences are due in January. S. Pieper will be sending an e-mail to the DIG and ARG with the conference details. The two conferences are:
- A. The North Carolina State University Undergraduate Assessment Symposium is April 13-15, 2007. <http://www.ncsu.edu/assessment/symposium/>.
 - B. The NASPA conference will be in St. Louis from June 7-10, 2007. This is the conference that is replacing the AAHE conference. <http://www.naspa.org/events/detail.cfm?id=243>.
- V. Assessment Committee Agenda – ideas from the Committee
- A. What is the status of the Interview Project? J. Vittengl responded that this year's project (Spring 2007) will be on student engagement; seniors will be participating. Students will identify behaviors of faculty and themselves that encourage and/or increase engagement. He will correlate these oral responses with written responses. The results will be able to be applied *directly*. J. Vittengl passed around a sign-up sheet for faculty interviewers. He will also be inviting all faculty through an e-mail to be sent next week. **DIG and ARG members are encouraged to seek out their faculty colleagues to tell them about this opportunity.**
 - B. Should we continue to provide faculty proctors for the junior tests during the University Conference? We started this a couple years ago because it is easier for students and motivation rises with the presence of faculty proctors. **The Committee voted to continue the practice of testing with faculty proctors on University Conference day. Furthermore, the DIG will revisit the time equity issue of the CAAP and MAPP in the Spring.**
 - C. Some Five-Year Reviews contain recommendations on how to improve the Assessment Program so that it is more useful at the discipline level. J. Vittengl volunteered psychology's

Review as an example for the Committee to look at. **In the Spring, the DIG will go through most recent Five-Year Reviews to see what recommendations were made.**

- D. G. Gordon informed the Committee that the Federal government put out a report on accountability in higher education. The State of Missouri is writing its own report, in part in response to the Federal report, that will make recommendations (or possibly requirements) for State institutions regarding accountability for learning outcomes. The State is also expected to include a recommendation on value-added assessment in this report.
- E. Students' critical reading skills, according to the junior tests, are not what we would expect of Truman students. We need more classroom connection to critical/deep reading. The Interview Project is a good place to start to find out where Truman students are right now on this skill. **This will be an agenda item for the DIG in the Spring.**
- F. What is the status of the ITS data warehouse? What instruments and depth of detail should be put into the warehouse? In which year should we start? **These issues will be an agenda item for the ARG in the Spring.**
- G. **The replacement of GREs as senior tests will be an item for the DIG in the Spring.** Disciplines will be expected to make progress.
- H. How will we recruit faculty proctors for the CLA in the Spring? Since so many more students are taking the CLA next semester than ever have before (approximately 300 versus 50), we will need quite a few more faculty assistants. Also, are there any special analyses we should request of the CLA folks? **These will be immediate agenda items for the DIG in the Spring.**

VI. Announcements

- A. The CSXQ results arrived in September. Contact M. Eisenberg if you'd like to see them.
- B. There will be an Assessment Colloquium on December 5 at noon in the Ryle Hall Private Dining Room. S. Pieper, Jason Miller, and Jennifer Thompson will be talking about e-portfolios.
- C. If you have not yet given G. Wehner your schedule of availability for Spring meetings, please do so immediately.

The meeting adjourned at 4:27pm.

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