

Assessment Council Meeting
Wednesday, February 23, 2005
Bogle Conference Room
2:30p.m.

Present: Angela Becker, Kelly Brown, Sharon Calhoon (Chair), Dmitriy Chulkov, Lori Collins, Mary Hansen, Nadene Keene, Gail MacKay, Donna McLean, Sue Ridlen, Kathy Ross, Aimee Sadler, Allen Safianow, Robin Symonds, Bridget Whitmore, Earl Wysong, Marcia Andersen (secretarial support)
Absent: Ellen Sigler

Format for Assessment Plans

The Council reviewed the proposed format for the Assessment Plan as presented by the Program Plans subcommittee.

There was considerable discussion about whether benchmarks are an important part of the plan. The purpose of benchmarks is to set a goal for the program, and then faculty/staff can compare the assessment results with the benchmark. This will help programs to determine whether they need to implement changes to improve student performance. There was also concern that by having benchmarks, faculty would feel as if they were being assessed and not the students. Benchmarks are an aid to program assessment, not assessment of faculty.

The Council voted to accept the format (15-Yes 1-Absent) as presented with the provision that Sharon add a section V to the document, where planners can describe other assessment activities (including completing the plan). The final document is available in the Assessment Council Oncourse site as well as on the CTLA's assessment website at www.iuk.edu/cte/assessment.

General Education Subcommittee Report

Robin Symonds reported on activities of the General Education Subcommittee. The committee is planning to distribute a survey to all faculty participating in the general education assessment process last fall. They hope to complete a new general education assessment plan by June.

National Survey of Student Engagement

NSSE administration is ongoing. Last year's response rate was low. Please contact faculty in your area and ask them to ask freshmen and seniors who have received the survey (email subject line "IUK wants your feedback") to respond to it. Wysong suggested that in future years some kind of incentive be given to students to respond to the survey.

Oncourse CL collaboration site for Assessment Council

Council members who had been to the site to get documents had not had any problems with it.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m. The next Assessment Council meeting will be held on April 13, 2005, in Bogle at 2:30 p.m.