

7-25-11

Assessment Committee

Present: John Miazga, David Tarver, Karen Shumway, Alaric Williams, Lesley Casarez, Marilyn Eisenwine, Richard Evans

David said the committee membership has been changed as noted in the Agenda. Ex officio members are Lesley Casarez, Wendy Storms, and Christine Pruitt from the EPI Center. Dr. Miazga is also a member as chair of the NCATE Steering Committee.

David handed out the Standard 2 list of exhibits and AFIs for this standard. For the Aug. 29, 2011 Steering Committee meeting, David must provide a written plan of action for this committee. These goals are at the unit level.

The handout of Program Assessments Chart is at the program level. David has added information such as Science being changed to Biology. This is the only certification program left in the sciences. Small certification programs such as Chemistry, Math/Physics, and Computer Science have been eliminated.

A discussion ensued concerning the new Masters of Special Education and Masters in Curriculum and Instruction. Some of these candidates do not have to take or have already taken their TExES exam. Assessment #1 must be tied to content of some kind. Richard's Special Education candidates should be able to take a practice TExES exam and use that content. The dean will have to visit with Kim Livengood about the C&I candidates' first measure of content knowledge.

Dave visited with Mary McGlamery concerning the assessments for the Guidance and Counseling Masters program. They are revising assessments to be more acceptable and collect data in TaskStream for NCATE reporting.

AFIs include fairness, accuracy, and consistency of candidate performance. Dave has not looked at other institutions to find what they might be doing. John said the visiting team was not able to see a policy or written minutes concerning this or posting of syllabi across the unit. We should also have an assessment committee in each department. We are going to be measuring disposition now. We will have to run an interrater reliability study. Lesley will do a study like this with university supervisors in the near future at the undergraduate level. John said we should have this in place by the beginning

of the fall semester. David said we also have to check on Advanced Programs. John said we will have to run an interrater reliability study across CPR exams to make sure we are applying consistently for all candidates. The TaskStream rubric for CPRs will be the same across all programs. Marilyn said another interrater reliability study will be done on all instructors of the EPSY 3303 case study rubric, beginning in fall 2011.

Our second AFI for Standard 2 involves regular and systematic use of data to improve program quality. We are now posting minutes of meetings, visiting with program managers about how they use their data, and ensuring that we have a formal process for this on record. Starting with our Aug. 17, 2011 faculty meeting, we are beginning to do this now. We were previously doing this by program, but it was an informal process. It will now become a formal process.

John said our Program Assessment chart will also help to formally illustrate the areas evaluated. David and Marilyn are visiting with program managers about how they are using data to improve programs now. John said we could also add to this chart the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and if the candidates met these requirements. As the university steps up reporting for SACS, we will be on the same page with our NCATE data. We have 8 SLOs. David said we should also eliminate abbreviations, acronyms, etc. We could also list Program Manager and Dept. Head? This is not a static document.

For example, this fall, all undergraduate programs will take the EC-12 PPR (Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities) TExES exam.

Karen suggested each time we change this document, we should save it under a different version of the document. This will help with documentation and illustrating our progression of work.

Other areas at the unit level to discuss? John said 2.3e involves distance learning programs. We have to make sure these programs are the same as those offered on campus. Some of our programs are now totally distance learning. John suggested we look at pass rates for both types of programs. Karen said we have to report to SACS separately for distance education as well. There are more and more databases being built with regard to distance education programs. One example is Transparency by Design. Another example is Quality Matters. John said we are a member of this. We are looking at our education programs in relation to this. The new distance education policy says our

professors will look at Quality Matters with relation to their courses.

Karen said there are some free rubrics to use out there, such as the LEAP rubrics.

John said we have changes such as letters of reference for admission to the program for undergraduates, which relates to 2.3b. For 2.3c we are rewriting policies right now. Disposition data will be collected starting fall 2011. Diversity data - Standard 4, will be collected. Data will be housed in one place for standards. EPI Center already houses TExES data, student teaching data, etc. Lesley said they met this morning about housing graduate student field placement data in the EPI Center. John said there is much data being collected, but we will now make sure all different kinds of data relate to each candidate.

Karen asked about our mature data collected on students' on and off campus experiences. John said we do because of the number of hours required for field experience placements for our candidates, undergraduate and graduate.

David mentioned again that we must provide a written plan to be presented on Aug. 29, 2011. John said that is particularly meant to target our AFIs.

David also noted that the Institutional Learning Goals, both graduate and undergraduate have now been uploaded in TaskStream for us to use in rubrics. Reports can then be run concerning necessary information for the university.

Karen has asked for a representative for the university assessment committee. John will ask his two department heads.

David said we have the Aug. 17 and Aug. 29 meetings to be sure we are on track with what we need to do. The next meeting of this committee will be Aug. 1, 2011 at 10:30 in Room 290.