

UIS Assessment Task Force
Thursday, September 30, 2004
PAC E
10:00 – 11:30
Notes

Present: Harry Berman, Leanne Brecklin, Beverly Bunch, Margot Duley, Taibeh Hosseinali, Karren Kirkendall, Sharron Lafollete, Martin Martsch, Karen Moranski, Judy Shipp, Kyle Weir, Doug Woken, Bill Bloemer

Absent: Eric Fisher, Kortney Leatherwood, Chris Miller, Ielleen Miller, Mark Puclik

Review of April 29 notes
No Changes

Update on Electronic Portfolios & E-Portfolio RFP
Guests: Farokh Eslahi, Shari McCurdy

Farokh Eslahi and Shari McCurdy provided an overview of the process that was used to review and select an electronic portfolio software package called Taskstream. They indicated that training on this software will start October 1. Shari indicated that there has been a request for proposal issued for faculty who are interested in addressing how electronic portfolios can be used to improve student learning outcomes.

Update on the Assessment Website

Harry Berman expressed his appreciation for Ieleen Miller's work on the assessment website.

Discussion of the Annual Report on Assessment of Learning Outcomes at UIS and meetings with college cabinets

Harry Berman and Beverly Bunch discussed the procedure that was used to prepare the Annual Report on the Assessment of Learning Outcomes at UIS. They indicated that the report addresses the state of assessment among UIS academic programs and includes examples of effective use of particular components of assessment. Harry and Beverly recently met with the College of Public Affairs and Administration College Cabinet to discuss the report and will be meeting with the other college cabinets in the near future. (The report can be viewed on the assessment website.)

Plans for 2004-2005

Members of the task force discussed possible activities for the 2004-2005 academic year. These included:

- Providing more recognition and rewards for progress on assessment
 - Suggestion included public recognition for programs that have made progress (e.g., listing the programs on the website), showcasing a particular department's progress, or paying for a faculty member to present a paper related to assessment at a conference.
- Scheduling another Outcomes and Assessment Workshop in October or November
- Following-up with the faculty members who attended the workshop last March to see what progress has been made
- Making a presentation to the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils regarding assessment and highlighting the link to program review
- Hosting a speaker or panel (one idea was to address assessment of general education).

Baccalaureate Skill Descriptors

Updates were provided on the Campus Senate and campus-wide faculty meetings that addressed baccalaureate skill descriptors. Members of the ATF then discussed some of the major issues associated with baccalaureate skill descriptors and shared ideas about how to proceed. One suggestion was that a one-page sheet that discusses the background and context for the baccalaureate skill descriptors might be helpful. Harry suggested that the Assessment Task Force meet again in two weeks to continue this discussion.