

# Program Review and Assessment Committee

Thursday, September 20, 2007

UL 1126

1:30-3:00 p.m.

Karen Johnson, Chair

Joshua Smith, Vice chair

## AGENDA –

1. Approval of the minutes of May meeting ..... K. Johnson
2. Welcome and introductions..... K. Johnson
3. Report on a national institute on general education ..... R. Turner  
attended by a team from IUPUI
4. Discussion of PRAC visibility ..... K. Johnson  
and strategies for communication ..... J. Smith
5. First meetings of subcommittees (see descriptions attached)  
Advanced Practitioners ..... M. Hansen  
J. Smith  
Performance Indicators ..... G. Pike  
e-Portfolio ..... S. Kahn  
Graduate Issues ..... K. Johnson  
Grants ..... L. Houser  
Program Review ..... D. Boland  
Course Evaluations (proposed) ..... H. Mzumara  
E. Rubens
6. Adjournment ..... K. Johnson

## MINUTES –

### Members Present:

Robert Aaron, Drew Appleby, Sarah Baker, Trudy Banta, Karen Black, Donna Boland, Polly Boruff-Jones, William Conrad, Elaine Cooney, Donna Dunn, Yao-Yi Fu, Janet Fulton, Krista Hoffmann-Longtin, James Johnson, Karen Johnson, Susan Kahn, Hea-Won Kim, Steve Mannheimer, Melinda Meadows, Howard Mzumara, Joanne Orr, Gary Pike, Irene Queiro-Tajalli, Lisa Riolo, Elizabeth Rubens, Jackie Singh, Joshua Smith, Kathryn Steinberg, Randi Stocker, Mark Urtel, Russell Vertner, Ken Wendeln, Debra Winikates, Marianne Wokeek, Nancy Young

Guest: Richard Turner

Minutes for the May meeting were approved as written.

### Welcome and Introduction

K. Johnson welcomed everyone back to the committee and recognized new and old members. She invited all members to contact her or T. Banta with any questions and encouraged people to utilize the listserv.

New members, including K. Wendeln (Business), J. Johnson (Continuing Studies), W. Conrad (Engineering and Technology), L. Riolo (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences), S. Mannheimer (Informatics), D. Dunn (Medicine-Health Professions Program), J. Singh (OPD), J. Swope (Science), T. Stucky (SPEA), and R. Aaron (Student Life), introduced themselves; and continuing members introduced themselves.

**Report on the 2007 AAC&U Summer Institute on General Education. (Richard Turner)**

R. Turner reported that an IUPUI faculty team attended the AAC&U Summer Institute, designed to encourage colleges to examine their undergraduate programs within the framework of liberal education. The team hoped to identify strategies to create a more coherent vision, focused on the PULs, of the undergraduate experience at IUPUI. They found that the PULs tend to be prominent early in the college experience at IUPUI, but are less so in the junior and senior years and capstone courses within majors. Turner noted that AAC&U has identified essential college learning outcomes and that the team mapped these outcomes to the PULs. (See p. 9, Table 1 of the handout.) The team report further uses AAC&U's seven Principles of Excellence as a framework for developing campus-specific recommendations for making the PULs and the educational values they represent more central to undergraduate education at IUPUI. But more needs to be done: difficulties with campus-wide communication, the high number of transfer students on campus, and uneven faculty and administration understanding of the PULs and of assessment all pose challenges. (See "To Do" list in handouts.) Turner pointed to some urgency; IUPUI is strong in professional school/graduate education, while undergraduate education has been in a "catch-up" mode. Turner asked the group for support in moving the campus toward creating a cohesive educational experience that would increase IUPUI's national visibility and support recruiting for out-of-state and international students.

Members posed a number of questions and made several comments:

D. Appleby: What is meant by "rewards and recognition" in the last bullet point?

Turner: All forms: annual review, three-year review, tenure and promotion.

K. Johnson: We need examples of good practice at the individual faculty level.

Turner: The report addresses this. OPD can help here.

G. Pike: A faculty fellow is developing a Web site to highlight the PULs.

M. Wokeck: Bring IUPUI FACET faculty in to work with departments.

S. Kahn: Making the PULs more visible and intentionally woven through the curriculum is something that a lot of people at IUPUI are working on.

K. Wendeln: Kelley discovered that many students do not understand the PULs. In response, the school redesigned courses, but it is still difficult to gain faculty buy-in. Accreditation requirements are helpful, because they force schools to focus on the PULs.

K. Hoffmann-Longtin: The PULs support skills desired by employers.

J. Singh: An undergraduate student researcher worked on a grant this past summer to identify knowledge, skills, and abilities that employers want and connected them to the PULs.

Turner: What will motivate faculty to consider students' educational experiences beyond department/program objectives?

Appleby: Distinction between "liberal arts" and "servile arts."

Banta: President McRobbie has formed a student group to envision the ideal college campus.

Hoffman-Longtin: The Solution Center is developing a civic engagement and experiential learning inventory.

E. Rubens: The team's ideas align well with the ePort initiative.

Turner: AAC&U team is not a standing committee; it is up to IUPUI faculty and administration to determine whether and how to act on the recommendations.

### **PRAC Visibility**

The group briefly discussed ways in which members share/promote PRAC within their respective units. Members were asked to think about additional strategies for communicating PRAC goals, objectives, and discussions to their departments and schools. The issue will be addressed periodically throughout the year. E. Cooney suggested that units want to hear about "best practices," and K. Johnson noted the varying successes of the PRAC "road show" last year.

### **PRAC Sub-Committees**

PRAC subcommittee chairs described their subcommittees' roles within PRAC and members were asked to select a subcommittee. Smith asked that each group develop a set of goals for the year, some specific activities they expect to work on, and a timeline/schedule for completion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:04 PM.