Program Review and Assessment Committee

MINUTES
Thursday, April 16, 2015
1:30pm – 3:00pm, CE 307

Present: K. Alfrey, S. Baker, T. Banta, R. Bennett, R. Bentley, K. Black, T. Davis, P. Ebright,
C. Gentle-Genitty, S. Graunke, M. Hansen, L. Houser, S. Hundley, K. Johnson, S. Kahn,
M. Kolb, J. Lee, S. Lowe, L. Maxwell, A. Mitchell, J. Motter, H. Mzumara, C. Nielsen,
B. Orme, M. Pistilli, T. Roberson, C. Schuck, C. Toledo, S. Weeden, and W. Worley

Guests: Stacy Morrone and Vic Borden

March meeting minutes approved.

Stacy Morrone and Vic Borden: Unizen Presentation
     What it is: Unizen is a "digital learning ecosystem for member use," with IU as one of ten
members of a consortium. The system has parts: Canvas learning management system
(already in use), the Unizen Content Relay, for searching and retrieving content (prototype
anticipated by mid-summer), and the Analytics Relay (to be built in the fall). The parts are
intended to function together. Faculty input on needs and use will be solicited soon.
     Why it is: With Unizen, the university will maintain ownership and control of its data and
content. With more university interactions, particularly those involving students, being
performed within and by means of technology, there are more and more complex and
nuanced data than ever. The challenge is to make sense of it in useful ways. Stacy invited
a PRAC member to join the Unizen task force.

Eric Metzler and Todd Roberson: Assessment Practices in Kelley School of Business,
"Reassessing Assessment."
     This project entailed aligning PULs with Principles of Business Learning (PBLs) and
simplifying the assessment process for the faculty. Faculty members performing
assessment work are enrolled as students in a class on Canvas, with a syllabus describing
expectations and due dates, a centralized repository for documents, and with clear
"assignment" instructions and templates. One-on-one consultation is available for faculty
members. Faculty participants are thanked and shown the relevance of information that
results. Budgetary support for assessment training (conference attendance) and
enforcement support from upper administration are crucial for success.

Susan Kahn and Karen Alfrey: Review of PRAC Reports
     The PRAC Report Review process began as part of IUPUI's preparation for the HLC
     reaffirmation of accreditation in 2012. This year's Subcommittee recommends revising
     and updating the PRAC report guidelines. Suggested changes include asking units to
     clarify where their student learning outcomes and their approach to assessment come
     from, particularly whether they are dictated by an external accrediting agency; providing

definitions of terms like "direct" and "indirect assessment"; increasing the emphasis on assessing the effectiveness of changes made as a result of previous assessment findings; and eliminating the matrix format, since narrative and outline formats are better suited to today's content. The subcommittee also notes that "standard met, no action needed" may satisfy some specialized accrediting bodies, but does not conform to HLC's commitment to continuous improvement.

The PRAC Reports, the PRAC Report Review, and the annual IUPUI Assessment Report (which draws on the PRAC Reports) help us demonstrate that the campus is paying attention to student learning. The individual reviews also offer feedback to units on how educated outside readers interpret their reports.

Linda Houser: Recommendations for PRAC Mini-Grant Funding
Subcommittee recommends funding two proposals:
1. Community Engagement in Professional Outcomes Measurement, Rachel Applegate, Department of Library and Information Science, School of Informatics and Computing.
2. Creating a Peer Review Model for Online Courses to Ensure Program Effectiveness, Margaret Ryznar, Yvonne Dutton, and Max Huffman, Robert H. McKinney School of Law.

Recommendation accepted by the committee.

Steve Graunke: National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Update
NSSE is being administered this year. Every third year IUPUI surveys first-year students and seniors using NSSE. (In other years, IUPUI's own Continuing Student Satisfaction Survey is administered.) The response rate is currently low, especially among seniors. PRAC members are asked to encourage students to respond and to urge faculty colleagues to do the same
Senior status for this purpose is defined by the student being in review status or enrolled in a capstone course, not by number of credits. Steve will share by e-mail a template message for spurring students to participate.

Adjournment