



July 22, 2019 | 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Morrison Hall – Provost Conference Room

Attendance

Present: Brien Bolin (LAS Fairmount College), Deepak Gupta (Engineering), Kaye Monk-Morgan (Academic Affairs), Alicia Newell (Student Affairs), Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn (Fine Arts), Clay Stoldt (Applied Studies), and Ginger Williams (University Libraries) and Lydia Santiago (Academic Affairs).

Absent: Jim Clark (Business), Whitney Crager (Health Professions) and Voncella McCleary-Jones (Health Professions).

Meeting Handouts

- Minutes of the June 24, 2019 meeting
- The goal is to upload all of the handouts on Office 365 folder

Approval of the Minutes

Alex Sternfeld-Dunn moved to accept the June 24, 2019 minutes with noted corrections. Alicia Newell, seconded the motion. The committee unanimously supported the motion.

Assessment Committee Discussion

NSSE

The Office of Assessment received a notice that the raw data is available for download but the report will not be available until August. The Office of Assessment will contact Alicia Newell in Student Affairs to discuss how that information will be reported out to the university. When the information becomes available, the assessment committee will start taking a look at it and disseminate the data to share within academic units.

CLA – FL 2019 Recruitment Plan

The Assessment Committee will continue with what was done last year with some additions. CLA will now be administered through the university Testing Services office. There is a new contact in that office that has been contacted to secure testing dates. As soon as those dates are received, a flyer will be sent via social media. The flyer will include a QR code that will allow for the flyer to be less text heavy and will direct the reader straight to the website. Assistance with testing will come from Strategic Communications. They have agreed to work in getting the flyer to students in an effort to increase student participation. The Office of Assessment has also spoken to faculty (especially those who are teaching first year seminars) that would help to publicize the dates of testing and some have agreed to submit the test in their classrooms. Assistance has also been secured with students in Student Involvement. Their students agreed to go around and post the CLA flyers around campus. The Office of Assessment will share the flyer with you when they're complete. An email will also go out to all of the university freshman. Members of the committee suggested talking to media services about using a Snapchat ad to promote testing as well.

The Office of Assessment has also discussed incentives for the students who take the test. The test takes anywhere from an hour to ninety minutes. While the card may be meaningful in some way, it may not mean

much to those who live on campus and aren't able to travel to a QuikTrip, with that, the office is looking at other ways to diversify incentives to include Starbucks cards and Shocker Dollars.

How is CLA data being used?

The Office of Assessment recently discovered when compiling reports that how and where the CLA data is being used outside of this committee, is uncertain. For example, one discovery was that the Gen Ed committee should have received the CLA data but unfortunately the Office of Assessment was not aware of the need nor did the Gen Ed Committee inquire for the data. The CLA has been used as one of the assessment tools that evaluates whether or not the Gen Ed program is working. Members of the UAC committee suggested that this committee speak with Dr. Jim Clark and Roy Myose, both who have served on the Gen Ed committee to discuss how that information is used.

The Office of Assessment is still working on how the UAC committee interfaces with the Gen Ed committee or with any other committees. A goal of the UAC chair, is understand how the UAC committees work influences decisions that are being made across campus, as they relate to university wide assessment.

Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn asked if a seat for a member of the Gen Ed committee should be offered, even if it were an Ex Officio role, that would ensure communication between the two committees was taking place. A second question was asked if there were other groups on campus that engage in assessment activities that feed into this group, should they too serve on this committee. The response was that everything should come to the UAC as this was not just an academic assessment committee but a university assessment committee.

The UAC Chair noted that in the past this committee was much more engaged with selection of the assessment tools but it did not necessarily look at the results of those assessment tools used. With that said, it seems short sided for this group to decide what the assessment tools are but not have any idea of the efficacy of the assessment tools they've selected by not looking at the assessments. It was suggested by a Clay Stoldt that the UAC serve as a hub and as a review function of what they've done and looking at the pieces of the puzzle and aggregate those together for some larger recommendations. The Office of Assessment is reviewing, outside of the Program Review for colleges, the CAS assessment in Student Affairs, what other assessments are happening on campus.

Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn read what the charge of the committee was that was found on the website; it is to communicate University assessment methods and best practices, evaluate assessment data, make recommendations based on assessment data for improvement and accountability purposes, and to keep the dialogue of assessment alive across campus. The definition of assessment reads as such a large umbrella. Is the charge to assess inefficiencies? How big is our umbrella? If this committee can establish that, that will help us understand the UAC's place in the individual assessments. It could assist when this committee reviews the makeup then it could be seen that representatives of the colleges along with student affairs and academic affairs included. The UAC seems to be more of a curricular assessment body than it is a university wide assessment body. The UAC chair noted that while universities evolve, it is no longer okay to just evaluate academic learning outcomes, HLC requires that we now evaluate everything, not just learning outcomes. It is right that the committee was set up to evaluate the curricular outcomes. It was noted that the colleges that have gone through their program review are wrestling with the data collection. There isn't a great explanation of what makes both a robust and efficient assessment because most people on campus are not assessment specialist. Alicia Newell shared that one thing Student Affairs is doing to create a culture of assessment in their division, is to share in a monthly newsletter those tips on assessment and highlighting a department or area that reported out something. It is a beginning process to recognize those departments doing the work and providing examples of a best practice.

Aleks Sternfeld-Dunn further noted the sentence that is a very important statement in the definition, “*evaluate assessment data, and make recommendations based on assessment data for improvement and accountability purposes.*” If this committee is trying to create a culture of assessment, he noted that the UAC must communicate how the reports matter, if colleges/reviewers don’t see a benefit for doing then it’s just one more thing they have to do. What is written in the report that will benefit those writing it? If colleges/departments are looking for more resources and they can use that report to show that due to a lack of resources, we’ve lost students and we think there’s a correlation, then that department brings that report to the University Assessment Committee, this committee can make the recommendations to the Provost or provide feedback on how another department is successful while using less and gaining more. The feeling was that the recommendation piece was very important to articulate to the university-at-large as to why assessment and report matter. The UAC will continue working on this and look for more dialogue over the next semester of what the University Assessment Committee could and should be doing in the new era of assessment outside learning outcomes.

Student Services Program Review Update

Alicia Newell noted that those Student Affairs groups going through the CAS review will be requesting for a member of this committee to sit in on their review meetings and/or ask for a faculty member within their college for recommendations to be a part of their CAS reviews. The plan is that once the CAS reviews are complete, those groups will come and present to the University Assessment Committee for recommendations. The UAC chair noted that the intention was to ask each one of the UAC representatives engage in the CAS process. It was further stated it was a preference that both a representative from this committee and a faculty member of the college be involved in that process.

Alicia and her team are ahead of the timeline. The UAC chair will meet with them again next week to kick-off and codify their CAS review schedule. A final timeline will be shared with the committee so that it can also be shared with the college deans. Wichita State advising units, housing & residential life and disability services are the first ones to begin the CAS reviews. The CAS reviews will share how advising is impacting students in their college and showing their value.

Fall Planning Symposia

A couple of things that need to be completed are dates that worked. They are October 22, 2019 and March 12, 2020 both from 2:00 to 3:30 PM. Both Erin Shields and Dr. Aaron Austin need to be confirmed for the symposia. Next, Clay Stoldt noted that he had spoken with faculty in CLES and that they came up with a couple of ideas. One was around building exams and course assessments; the second was a two part workshop; the first was creating a Panapto to provide foundational concepts around assessment that would then enable feedback and the second part was for dialogue and follow-up on the feedback provided.

It should also be noted that the Logic Model is scheduled for February 6, 2020.

Budget

We have a small budget for assessment activity. If faculty are considering any, please encourage those requests, as some dollars remain. As the requests come forward, the preference is that they go to the college UAC representative first.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on August 26, 2019 to be held in Morrison Hall.