Program Review and Assessment Committee
January 13, 2011, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., UL 1126
Minutes

Present: M. Yard (Chair), K. Alfrey, T. Banta, R. Bentley, K. Black, M. Brown, B. Gushrowski, M. Hansen, B. Hayes, C. Hayes, S. Hendricks, R. Huisman, S. Hundley, M. Irwin, S. Kahn, J. Lee, H. Mzumara, B. Neal-Beliveau, B. Orme, G. Pike, J. Plaskoff, S. Scott, J. Singh, C. K. Smith, K. Steinberg, R. Stocker, A. Teemant, K. Wendeln, K. Wills, N. Young

1. **December Meeting Minutes:** accepted as circulated

2. **Updates**
   - T. Banta reminded the committee that annual unit assessment reports have typically been requested by the last Friday in May (for this year, the date would be May 25, 2012). The timing has been set in late spring rather than in fall because of challenges due to membership turnover and the corresponding difficulty of a new member's immediately becoming responsible for a report on the previous year. M. Yard acknowledged that flexibility has always been granted to avoid conflicts with preparation of specialized accreditation reports. He noted the wide variation in actual submission dates and asked for comments. Several members pointed out that the end of the fiscal year, June 30, aligns best with other school reports and also allows time for reflection about information from spring semester.
   - From the 2012 Committee, T. Banta reported that all of the self-study chapter drafts have been circulated, though most committees are still working to articulate challenges for the future. Town Hall meetings for community input will begin February 21.
   - Banta also announced that IUPUI and Ivy Tech will participate in a new Lumina-funded project, with a modest grant from the Association of American Colleges and Universities through the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. A primary goal will be to determine how institutions might use Lumina's Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP) for transfer based on student competence. She added that legislative pressure regarding a transferable general-education core is causing additional conversations.

3. **Information Literacy Update and Discussion**
   - Guest Rhonda Huisman, University Library and Center for Teaching and Learning, led discussion following up on the December 2011 presentation about information literacy competence and resources at IUPUI. She reminded PRAC members that librarians will be pilot-testing a new project this spring, based on the online TRAILS module (Tools for Real-Time Assessment of Information Literacy Skills) developed by Kent State University with funding from the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. Though the module was prepared for use in secondary education, Huisman will use the 9th grade quiz as a pre-test, with 12th grade serving as a post-test. She has also developed a new module to support faculty in teaching information literacy, soon to be available in the Center for Teaching and Learning Online Resources. In response to a comment by K.

Alfrey about the difficulty in determining what a third-year student should be able to know and do, Huisman directed committee members to a carefully scaffolded rubric available on the UL web site (http://www.ulib.iupui.edu/research/infolit/competencies).

- In subsequent discussion, G. Pike noted that when he recently presented PUL assessment data for the Faculty Council, the comparatively low scores for information literacy drew attention. PRAC members agreed that information literacy probably needs to be emphasized in more courses; it may be included as a minor emphasis in many courses, but it appears to need further emphasis at moderate or major levels. J. Lee suggested that our language about emphases may have caused some confusion, since although information literacy is often involved in courses, it is much less often taught as content. Members agreed on the value of further faculty conversations about where in curricula it is taught and needs to be taught explicitly.

4. **Software Management Discussion**
   - K. Alfrey provided an overview of the current IU investigation of curriculum mapping and assessment management software. T. Banta added that the Vice President for Regional Affairs intends to purchase such software for the IU regional campuses; Banta will seek funds for IUPUI if there appears to be sufficient interest.
   - Alfrey has attended most of the vendor presentations and reviewed the major advantages and drawbacks of each. The common features include tools to map curriculum, define outcomes and goals, collect and store assessment data, store other documents such as examples of student work, and generate reports based on assessment results. She noted that most require that data be hosted on company servers, and there are differences regarding the methods of interaction with software, though all are intended to be user-friendly. A key benefit sought by Alfrey's engineering and engineering technology colleagues is the scheduling of assessment tasks with automated notifications. (See the attached presentation slides for details.)
   - C. Smith stated that Ivy Tech is also looking at these systems, and a key question is whether they should integrate with the Student Information System. M. Irwin noted the need for multi-dimensional capability to measure several items at the same time using the same tools. A system would also need to handle video and other images. G. Pike commented that some of the systems might be complicated for many faculty, and it is not clear whether these can interface with Oncourse. K. Wendeln asked about capability for cross-campus mapping and views of assessment results. Of those present, only IUPU Columbus and the Schools of Education and Engineering & Technology seemed very interested. Banta said the project is on a fast track and she would keep members informed.

5. **Program Review Update**
   - In response to some previous questions, K. Black explained that the revised Program Review guidelines will be used first for units to be reviewed next year (2012-13). She added that feedback so far has been positive.

6. New Business
- M. Yard referred to the list of upcoming PRAC agenda items included on the January agenda. These topics are currently being scheduled, and he asked members to email him or K. Wills with further suggestions.

7. Adjournment at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by S. Scott and respectfully submitted by K. Wills, 2012 Vice Chair

Presentation by Karen Alfrey, January 16, 2012 (click to view presentation in PowerPoint):

Curriculum Mapping/Assessment Management Software

Current state of the search for tools that meet IU system needs