



## **UAA Faculty Senate Academic Assessment Committee**

Minutes: February 15, 2013

9:30a – 12:30p ADM 204

Audio conference: 1-800-893-8850

Participant code: 1664738

### **General Business**

- Approval of Agenda
  - Approved
- Approval of Minutes from 2/1/2013
  - Approved
- Vice-Provost Report

### **New Business**

- Reminder about terms expiring
  - The Governance Office will send a message to faculty about nominations in early March.
- Sociology PSLO review @ 10a. Faculty representative: Karl Pfeiffer
  - These PSLOs are in-line with Sociology programs nationally.
  - Based on feedback from other assessment advisory boards, the program has attempted to make data more focused, as well as expand the qualitative side of their assessment.
  - Alumni Survey
    - As a fairly new practice, the program is tracking students professionally and collecting stories from their graduates to expand the qualitative side of assessment.
    - The program hopes the survey will give them feedback on how well the program is achieving its outcomes.
    - Response rate of the Survey?
      - The survey hasn't been used yet.
      - The program has been able to identify who and where alumni are through the Office of Alumni Relations, and have a list of people to send the survey to.
  - There is an expectation that students are actively engaged in conducting research.
    - The program is tracking students that are taking steps beyond the program requirements. The response rate for facilitating research is nearly 100 percent because it's required for the program. It's more indicative of student achievement to track those that are taking internships, attending symposiums, etc.



- The program is tracking the quantity of students receiving letters of reference from program faculty for graduate schools and outside jobs.
  - Letters of reference from faculty are indicative of a student's overall performance.
- Dr. Pfeiffer is the point person for assessment in the program. Faculty members forward information to him and he keeps track of it. He also tracks information on how many students are in the program, how many students are in Sociology classes and how students are being showcased.
  - The report, data and data collection process is reviewed by the department in one of the first meetings of the academic year.
  - Assessment is a topical focus at all departmental meetings, so that faculty can collectively look at the program's goals and how they are doing overall.
- Improvement recommendations as a result of evidence found:
  - Most direct shifts in the program come in response to ETS major field exams, which indicate the strengths and weaknesses of the program as a whole.
    - For example, globalization wasn't an area that the program had much of a focus on, which was reflecting in ETS results. In response, the program built a faculty position that had a focus on globalization and hired a faculty member that could fill that position.
      - Students that have taken that course have increased the overall ETS score, which has had a positive impact on the program's position nationally.
    - The program responded to student feedback concerning accessibility of courses by adjusting the schedule and developing online courses where possible.
  - College support of program's improvement
    - CAS is supportive of teaching and learning improvements.
  - Does the program need any further assistance?
    - More readily available information on what resources are available on campus for faculty.
  - Topics the program might find interesting or of use at the assessment meeting in the Fall:
    - ePortfolios
    - Qualtrics Survey tool and other survey tools
  - The Chair will send an informational item to the Undergraduate Academic Board and the Faculty Senate \informing them of this review.
- Refrigeration & Heating Technology Assessment Plan Review @ 10:30a. Faculty representative: Dan Mielke
  - Assessment tools



- Lab project – A hands-on project completed by the students that demonstrates their ability to perform the task.
- Pre and post-tests – Tests whether or not students have met the program's expectations.
- EPA certification – A mandated test for the industry that students are required to complete at the end of their first year.
  - Test scores can be compared to national scores.
- Industrial Competency Certification – An entry level test that informs employers about a graduate's skills.
- How will objective number 6 regarding obtaining employment be measured?
  - It is somewhat difficult to measure, but it seems that many of the program's students find employment before finishing the program.
  - Suggestion to talk to Institutional Research to see if they can pull any data that might be helpful.
- Is there any focus on entry-level use of construction documentation (e.g. blueprints) to install, maintain and service units properly?
  - While it's not listed as a discrete program objective, electrical schematics and installation blueprints are covered in the program's courses.
  - The program's outcomes are more focused on the theory of operations.
- Retention
  - The EPA certification offered at the end of the first year is a requirement for professionals in the field. Historically, this field is short-staffed, so students are hired with this single credential.
  - While this results in lower retention levels, it is a positive thing for students and employers.
  - Considering that students are finding employment before completing the program, is there a certificate that students can get with a smaller number of hours?
    - No, because employers generally only require entry-level techs to have EPA certification, at this time.
- The Chair will send an informational item to the Undergraduate Academic Board and the Faculty Senate informing them of this review.

### Continuing Business

- Seminar / Workshop Proposal
  - Suggestion to break out into smaller groups of 2-4 to address the different aspects of the seminar.



- Structure
  - 2 days
  - Variety of workshops at different levels (beginner and advanced)
- Speakers
  - Best practices nationally and here at UAA
  - Q & A sessions
  - Call out to faculty for speakers
  - Coordinator of Student Affairs Research and Assessment candidate on campus was skilled in developing outcomes and might be a great speaker on assessment.
  - Student Affairs Assessment Book Club: Culture of Evidence in Student Affairs
    - Assessment of learning is being conducted in the co-curricular activities as well as within the academic programs
      - How does UAA highlight assessment across units?
- Workshops
  - ePortfolio
  - GER Assessment Forum
  - Assessment tools and resources on campus (e.g. Qualitrics)
  - Sessions can be used later for CAFÉ or the website
- Overarching title and theme
  - How is assessment practical?
  - How can it help your program move forward?
  - What is the goal for the first annual assessment summit?
    - Share assessment ideas
    - Share effective assessment tools
    - Building the foundation for assessment success
    - Showing the value of assessment
- Examples of assessment conferences
  - Texas A&M: It's Time to Show Your Stuff: Assessment Practices
- Next steps
  - For the next meeting, bring ideas on the theme and possible guest speakers.

**Informational**

- 3/1/2013 Anthropology PSLO review; available on Blackboard

Scheduled Meeting Dates Spring 2013		
Date	Time	Location



2/15	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
3/1	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
4/5	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
4/19	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
5/3	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
Spring 2013 schedule: 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays		

*Attendees*

P	Brian Bennett, CTC
P	Anthony Lack, KPC
P	Cindy Trussell, KOD
P	Holly Bell, MSC
C	Deborah Mole, LIB
N	Bill Myers, CAS
P	Kathleen Voge, CBPP

C	Amina Turton, COE
C	Jennifer McFerran Brock, SOE
C	Kathi Trawver, COH
C	Keith Cates (Chair), Faculty Senate
C	Bill Hazelton, Faculty Senate
-	Vacant, Faculty Senate
-	Vacant, Faculty Senate

C	Maria Stroth, OAA
C	Susan Kalina – Ex-officio, Vice Provost
N	Helen Wisniewski – Ex-officio, Vice Provost
C	Rebecca Moorman – Ex-officio

*Note: Confirmed meeting attendees are marked with “C.” Those unable to attend are marked “N.” Those calling in are marked “P.”*

Scheduled Meeting Dates Fall 2013		
Date	Time	Location
8/16	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
9/6	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
9/20	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
10/4	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
10/18	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
11/1	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
11/15	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
12/6	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
Fall 2013 schedule: 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays		

Scheduled Meeting Dates Spring 2014		
Date	Time	Location
1/3	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
1/17	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
2/7	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
2/21	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
3/7	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
3/21	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
4/4	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204
4/18	9:30a-12:30p	ADM 204



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Spring 2014 schedule: 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays