

PROGRAM REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
~ Annual Summary of Activity ~
Academic Year 2001-2002

The following report outlines and discusses major themes that resulted from the presentations, discussions, and achievements of the Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC) and its members during the 2001-2002 academic year. PRAC continued to meet monthly and provide guidance, feedback, and support as the schools at IUPUI worked to advance their assessment activities. During the 2001-2002 academic year, the committee placed greater reliance on subcommittees to provide leadership on a variety of issues because of the complexity of the issues and increased workload before PRAC.

Theme One: The Path to IUPUI's Re-Accreditation by the NCA

PRAC spent most of its time and energy on a self-study on teaching and learning, the special emphasis self-study area for which PRAC has the primary oversight. During the year, Trudy Banta, Susan Kahn, Sharon Hamilton, and others provided updates on the NCA process and guided related activities. Each of IUPUI's schools was asked to make a formal report, which conformed to the consensus format that was developed during the last academic year. Each report, which was discussed by the PRAC membership, focused on the status and outcomes of assessment and improvement efforts in each unit. These discussions also extended to campus-wide activities, and PRAC contributed to the outline for the self-study on Excellence in Teaching and Learning, one of two special emphasis self-studies that IUPUI is developing for the accreditation site visit. The members also divided into small groups to evaluate the campus progress on the major performance indicators/objectives for teaching and learning.

Observational Outcomes:

- Reports on assessment by individual units
 - School of Nursing (see September minutes)
 - School of Medicine (see October minutes)
 - School of Allied Health Sciences (see October minutes)
 - School of Engineering and Technology (see October minutes)
 - School of Informatics (see November minutes)
 - Kelley School of Business (see January minutes)
 - School of Education (see January minutes)
 - School of Dentistry (see January minutes)
 - School of Science (see February minutes)
 - School of Physical Education (see February minutes)
 - School of Social Work (see February minutes)
 - School of Liberal Arts (see February minutes)
 - School of Public and Environmental Affairs (see March minutes)
 - University College (see March minutes)

- Contributed to Preliminary Outline of NCA Special Emphasis Self-Study on Teaching and Learning
- Discussed and provided feedback on the campus progress on the Teaching and Learning major performance indicators/objectives. (see also Theme Four)

Theme Two: Annual Reports

The school-wide annual reports provide an important tool for improving the assessment of student learning, and in accordance with the consensus reached by the membership last year, PRAC reports that were received in 2000-2001 were reviewed to evaluate the overall approach to annual reporting and the degree of consistency with needed information. The Subcommittee (Karen Black and Sarah Baker (co-chairs), Irene Queiro-Tajalli, Nancy Young, Russ Vertner) also provided feedback to each of the reporting units on the completeness of the reports in five key areas, which were identified on a checklist.

Schools were given additional flexibility for providing this year's annual reports. Possible formats included completing the previously agreed upon matrix, adding a brief history of assessment to the report, or using the unit's PRAC assessment presentation as the basis for the report.

Observational Outcomes:

- Continued discussion of reporting of student learning outcomes
- Annual reports submitted
- Review of annual reports submitted for 2000-2001

Theme Three: Grant Guidelines, Reports, and Awards

The membership of the Subcommittee on Grant Proposals included Barbara Jackson (chair), Marion Wagner, and Charlie Yokomoto. This subcommittee reviews grant proposals and makes recommendations to the full committee and reviews the grant award process.

Observational Outcomes:

- Reviewed six proposals.
- Revised grant guidelines to clarify wording and process.
- Received two reports.

Reports Received: Sharon Hamilton (Report on Council of Writing Program Administrators' Consultant Evaluator Service) and (Report on Toward a Statement of Expectations for Senior Level Writing at IUPUI)

Grants Awarded:

T. Carey	A Relational Database for the Assessment of Course Objectives Across a Curriculum	\$2,000
E. Kryder-Reid	Museum Studies Assessment: A Pilot Project for the Assessment of Interdisciplinary Curriculum, Applied Learning, and Student Outcomes	\$2000
R. Pfile and W. Lin	Using Certification Exams to Help Formulate Course Objectives	\$2000
R. Lehnen	Evaluating and Assessing Outcomes of SPEA's Learning Communities: An Examination of Five Sections of V100 for the Fall 2001 Semester	\$2000

Theme Four: University Program Updates and Other Activities

The members of PRAC were pleased to hear about different campus-wide projects focusing on assessment and student learning. These updates provided the members with insight into University-wide initiatives geared toward accreditation and notable initiatives useful to faculty members. In some instances, PRAC received reports that required action by the committee. The following items (presentations) were considered during the year:

- **Guidelines for Review of Service Units.** Karen Black reported on this initiative, and the membership discussed the report and approved the guidelines.
- **2001 Assessment Institute.** Karen Black invited the membership to the 2001 Assessment Institute. PRAC was able to sponsor the attendance of one member from each school.
- **Urban Universities Portfolio Project, IUPUI ePortfolio Project.** Susan Kahn and Sharon Hamilton provided the membership with continuing updates on the Urban Universities Portfolio Project, which is a Pew Charitable Trusts grant initiative. Kahn serves as the Project Director and Hamilton serves as the chair of the campus-wide committee that is developing the IUPUI Student ePortfolio, and she is the chair of the Assessment Subcommittee. Drew Appleby, who is the chair of the Contents Subcommittee also participated. The portfolio project provides a showcase for the IUPUI campus, and the PRAC has been actively involved in the linkage between the portfolio and the self-study on teaching and learning. During these discussions, the membership provided input into a number of issues, including developing rubrics for competency and proficiency. The Faculty Associates Matrix has also been linked to the portfolio.
- **Performance Indicators for Teaching and Learning.** Trudy Banta provided an overview of the campus committee responsible for developing performance indicators for teaching and learning. She and Vic Borden invited PRAC members to serve on this committee. Volunteers included Drew Appleby, Sharon Hamilton, Karen Johnson, Susan Kahn, Sam Milosevich, Martel

Plummer, and Robert White. This work will continue into the next year.

- **Workshop on Principles of Undergraduate Learning.** PRAC members participated in a campus-wide workshop on the Principles of Undergraduate Learning on April 12. The purpose of this workshop was to refine the concepts of the “introductory” and “intermediate” levels of competence for assessing work in student electronic portfolios.
- **Informational Literacy.** At Dean Plater’s request, PRAC members joined a campus committee on Literacy Assessment to explore possibilities for testing students’ information literacy skills. The committee researched methods for testing information literacy, and deliberated several issues, including whether or not students should be tested and, if so, which of several assessment instruments might be used and at what point. PRAC members serving on this committee included Howard Mzumara (chair), Polly Boruff-Jones, and Sam Milosevich. The PRAC membership provided feedback to the committee.
- **AAHE Assessment Conference.** Vice Chancellor Banta’s office provided an opportunity for two members to attend the conference in Boston.

Observational Outcomes:

- PRAC members attended and participated in the 2001 Assessment Institute and the Workshop on the PULs.
- PRAC members attended the 14th International Conference on Assessing Quality in Higher Education in Vienna, Austria (Trudy Banta, Sharon Hamilton, Susan Kahn, and Joyce Mac Kinnon)
- PRAC members contributed to campus efforts to develop Guidelines for Review of Service Units, various aspects of the ePortfolio Project, performance indicators for the assessment of teaching and learning, and rubrics for competence and proficiency.

Submitted by: Ingrid Ritchie, Chair
Program Review and Assessment Committee

