Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC)
2004-2005 Year-End Summary

Program Review reports
- Computer and Information Technology – Tom Ho
- Geology Department – Andy Barth
- Sociology Department – David Ford
- Philosophy Department – Michael Burke
- General Studies – Amanda Helman
- Physical Education Department – Betty Jones

The program review committee considered the proposal to offer an alternative type of program review. Although it was not recommended, the committee did recognize the need to look at how to make the process more flexible.

Program Review committee reported on common themes that have emerged from the program review process across the campus – Donna Boland

Principles of Undergraduate Learning (PULs)
- proposed changes/updates
- held Town Hall meeting in November for input and discussion
- suggested revisions presented to Education Policy Committee of the Academic Affairs Committee; received positively with only a few changes
- presented to Faculty Affairs Committee and should be on an early agenda in the fall
- PULs nominated for the Hesburgh Award
- suggestion to add PULs to the campus program reviews

Goal 6, Indiana Commission on Higher Education
A response was prepared and discussion held about it. See website.

Thematic Learning Communities were described by Carmen Hicks; GPAs of students who participated in TLC were 2.84 vs. GPA of non-TLC students of 2.58

ePortfolio – Sharon Hamilton provided several updates on the ePortfolio.
- AIR/NPEC Grant was received for Enhancing Student Success Through Electronic Portfolios- Susan Kahn reported
- ePort matrix is to be released in fall 2005 for first year students in 2-3 of the largest learning communities. Faculty members will pilot its use.

Second Looks Assessment – Christopher Vice from Herron School of Art and Design reported on his department’s success in using Second Looks after each semester to enhance the curriculum and activities of the Visual Communication Program.

Web-based course evaluations – Howard Mzumara reported that a couple of academic units have piloted using on-line course evaluations with some success.
The following proposals were selected for grant funding:

- Program Review and Assessment for Placement and Instructional Effectiveness in the IUPUI English as a Second Language Program, Lynne Stallings and Thomas Upton
- Content Analysis of Course Syllabi and Assignments for IU ePort Pilot, David J. Sabol and Janet DeWester
- Assessing Student Academic Indicators Between Traditional and Distance Education Course Offerings, Mark Urtel, Alan Mikesky and Rafael Bahamonde
- Integrating Departmental Programmatic Assessment Needs with Pedagogical Objectives in Select Communication Studies Courses, Elizabeth Goering and Ronald Sandwina

Assessment Institute – held November 2004. PRAC members were encouraged to attend. Each school was invited to have one representative attend at not cost to the school.

Planning and Institutional Improvement Review – Trudy Banta asked for feedback from PRAC members about the usefulness of services provided.

Ann Zanzig was brought in for three days in February, 2005 to conduct training on the Accelerated Improvement Process (AIP).

James Madison University assessment instruments were described by Katie Morrow.

Kelley School of Business assessment results and senior exit survey were presented by Russell Vertner and Jim Smith.

Assessment of Civic Engagement was discussed. PRAC members were encouraged to begin using the Civic Engagement Inventory (CEI) in their schools again for documenting school activities.

National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) – Donna Boland (Nursing) and Ingrid Ritchie (SPEA) discussed how their schools have found NSSE results to be very useful for planning.

General Education – Betty Jones served on a system-wide committee that drafted a proposal on general education. This resulted from President Herbert’s charge to develop one consistent plan for all of the IU system.

IRB Process – the process was clarified by Josh Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

Martel Plummer
Recorder and Vice Chair
Vice Chair