

Program Review and Assessment Committee
December 13, 2012, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., UL 1126
Minutes

Present: M. Yard (Chair), R. Aaron, K. Alfrey, P. Altenburger, E. Ardemagni, T. Banta, T. Bennett, R. Bennett, K. Black, B. Gushrowski, M. Hansen, C. Hayes, Susan Hendricks, L. Houser, S. Hundley, S. Kahn, J. Lee, H. Mzumara, K. Norris, B. Orme, G. Pike, J. Plaskoff, T. Ribera, S. Scott, J. Singh, R. Stocker, K. Wills, W. Worley

1. October and November meeting minutes: approved unanimously as circulated

2. Updates

- T. Banta thanked PRAC members for their part in making the Higher Learning Commission evaluation team's visit in November so successful. She reported that team members were quite positive during the exit meeting with the Chancellor and his staff.
- She added that the team's final report draft will be sent to IUPUI in December for correction of any factual errors, and the chair hopes to have final action on the April agenda Higher Learning Commission Board of Directors.

3. IUPUI Strategic Planning Discussion

- T. Banta explained that the IUPUI strategic planning committee has solicited ideas from varied stakeholder groups, including PRAC, in response to three overarching questions:
 - What do we want IUPUI to be known for in 2025?
 - What strengths can we build on?
 - What challenges will we face?
- M. Yard organized committee members into small groups to discuss responses. Each group then reported out its ideas, with substantial overlap among the groups.
- The consensus summary of suggestions included these elements:
 - *Identity and reputation:* Model urban university engaged with our community; Model health and life sciences campus noted for cross-disciplinary collaboration; Destination university for strong and innovative academic programs; Distinctive student experiences regardless of major; Able to keep pace with rapid change in society; Strong liberal education
 - *Strengths:* Strong and diverse academic disciplines; Location; Community connections; Identification and relationship with parent institutions; Robust information infrastructure; Robust assessment; Embracing innovation, being open to change
 - *Challenges:* Tendency to try to be everything to everyone; Centralization of IU functions; 120-credit-hour limit; Money/resources; Space; Diversity and individuality of academic units making it difficult to do anything campus-wide; Lack of identification of units with IUPUI; Lack of campus amenities and "student life" support (things that keep students on and around the campus); Identification and relationships with parent institutions; Promotion and tenure (different units apply different standards); Focus on research rather than teaching in reward structure;

Mentoring of junior faculty; Issues for transfer students; Entering ability of our students (especially poor preparation in mathematics); Too little financial aid

- T. Banta thanked members and promised to share these responses with EVC Paydar and the committee. She added that the goal is to announce the new strategic plan in May 2013.

4. UCOL PRAC Report

- M. Yard noted the nationally regarded work of assessment by University College and asked M. Hansen to describe the College's approach, with emphasis on findings and improvements made.
- M. Hansen, Daniel Trujillo, and Jill Vanderwall described methods used, emphasizing mixed-method designs that employ both qualitative and quantitative methods. They focused the presentation on University College's major student-success and retention initiatives such as academic advising, peer mentoring, summer bridge program, first-year seminars, and personal development plans.
- Hansen highlighted results such as program effects on retention and graduation rates as well as direct and indirect measures and results for student learning outcomes. She also provided examples of changes made based on assessment results—for instance, adding emphasis on Critical Thinking to the First-Year Seminar and expanding Themed Learning Communities and Summer Bridge to improve retention rates—including some follow-up assessment regarding impact of changes. She highlighted future directions for University College already being planned, such as providing support beyond the first year, expanding work to include part-time and transfer students, and assessing evidence of student learning collected in the electronic Personal Development Plan.
- The slides from this presentation are circulated with the meeting minutes. Additional information is available at <http://research.uc.iupui.edu>.

5. Old Business

- G. Pike reported that the subcommittee had completed evaluation of teaching and learning goals for the performance report dashboard. Both indicators were rated in the "yellow" category because progress has not been as fast as desired.

6. New Business

- M. Yard conducted balloting for 2013 PRAC Vice-Chair. He thanked the two nominees, P. Altenburger and K. Wendeln, for their willingness to serve. Ballots will be tallied after the meeting and members notified accordingly.
- S. Hundley announced that he and T. Bennett are serving on a new task force that EVC Paydar has created on Academic Advising and Career Planning Services. The task force framework is IUPUI Career EDGE: Exploration, Development, Graduation, Employment. In devising a work plan, the task force has identified several questions about assessment and data collection, and Hundley asked PRAC members to email him responses to those questions. One outcome of the group's work will be a proposal to The Lilly Endowment.

- C. Hayes thanked T. Ribera, Y. Fu, K. Cranfill, and W. Crabtree for their help in reviewing the seven proposals received this fall for PRAC grants. The Subcommittee recommends funding for the following five projects:
 - Stewart, Ghoneima, & Liu – School of Dentistry
 - Zahl & Berghoff – School of Education
 - Buchenot – School of Liberal Arts, English
 - Wade – School of Medicine
 - Brandt & Anton – School of Education and School of Liberal Arts, SpanishJ. Lee moved and K. Alfrey seconded that the Subcommittee recommendation be approved; the motion carried unanimously.
- T. Banta thanked M. Yard for his leadership of PRAC during 2012, and he expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve. K. Wills added her anticipation of an engaging year for PRAC in 2013.

7. Adjournment at 3:00 p.m.

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