Program Review and Assessment Committee

August Meeting: Thursday, August 27, 1:30-3:00pm, CE 307

Minutes

Attendees: K. Alfrey; P. Altenburger; T. Banta; R. Bentley; K. Black; W. Crabtree; P. Ebright; T. Freeman; S. Graunke; T. Hahn; M. Hansen; S. Hendricks; S. Hundley; D. Jerolimov; S. Kahn; B. Keele; M. Kolb; J. Lee; S. Lowe; S.W. Lupton; M. Meadows; A. Mitchell; H. Mzumara; C. Nielson; K. Norris; A. Opsahl; J. Orr; I. Queiro-Tajalli; T. Ribera; T. Roberson; L. Ruch; C. Schuck; S. Scott; K. Sheeler; A. Teemant; C. Toledo; M. Urtel; C. Walcott; J. Watson; S. Weeden; Z. Wood; S. Zahl.

1. Welcome and Introductions – Stephen Hundley
   Minutes approved as circulated.

2. Brief Remarks from the Chancellor – Nasser Paydar
   The Chancellor expressed pride in IUPUI’s tradition of assessment and reasserted the importance of data for making decisions.
   Chancellor Paydar emphasized top priorities for the campus/es: 1. Student success (academic success, degree completion, participation in the community or further education after graduation); 2. Requested increased support from the Vice Chancellor for Research for faculty conducting research that serves students and the community; 3. Community engagement, for the benefit of both the community and the campus. He recommended that program reviews attend to these three areas.

3. Purpose of PRAC – Trudy Banta
   PRAC has grown from 8 members in 1992 to its current enrollment of 65 members representing academic units, libraries, centers, and other campus offices. The committee’s purposes are to provide faculty leadership for assessment, to provide guidelines for program reviews, guidelines for assessment of student learning, to provide small grants for assessment activities, and for sharing information about assessment.
   Expectations of PRAC members include being present at meetings, communicating information to relevant people at the meeting, providing guidance and expertise for the represented unit, and reporting on good practices in assessment. Each unit must compile and submit an annual report so that we can demonstrate to the Higher Learning Commission that our continued commitment to assessment leads to ongoing improvements throughout the campus.
Reiteration of the importance of PRAC reports, their function, and the importance of timely submission – Stephen Hundley

4. Discussion of General Education/PULs/PGPLs/PCLs, including an overview, history, and work in progress – Trudy Banta and Stephen Hundley

Reviewed the context of IUPUI’s three sets of principles and general education in the context of reaccreditation reviews over the past two decades. The assessment of PUL attainment that has been conducted for the past five years was sufficient for reaccreditation in 2012, but the uses of the data have not reached anticipated levels on campus.

The campus will be shifting to assessing general education using the AACU VALUE rubrics. This method recognizes that PULS aren’t confined solely to courses designated as general education courses; they also are important in upper level courses where PULs are contextualized in disciplinary learning. This method of assessment is appropriate to an integrated general education system. It also has the advantages of recognizing high impact teaching practices, relying on authentic artifacts of student learning, and employing nationally validated tools.

Questions about details of implementation will be addressed in future meetings.

5. Units’ Goals for Assessment in AY 2015-16: Small group discussions and report-outs– Everyone

Summary attached as Appendix I

6. Announcements and Related Items– Stephen Hundley

- Preview of the “Philosophy of Assessment” document (to be e-mailed for discussion in September)
- Annual PRAC Reports – Schedule/Reminder
- Preview of PRAC Meetings for Fall Semester
- Invitation to participate in 10-minute promising practices showcases each PRAC meeting – sign-up sheet circulated

Adjourned
Appendix I: Goals for Assessment in AY 2015-16, Summary of Small Group Discussion

Items from discussions ranked as top three from each group

Integration of PCLs with disciplinary learning
More purposeful assessment of RISE
Dashboards

Identifying new tools (Honors College)
Harmonizing across campuses (Labor Studies)
Coordination of programs within Medical and Health Sciences with different accrediting agencies

Working with community partners, aligning content with their goals
Implementing a portfolio review with a common rubric across the 4-year degree.
Updating tools and resources

Coordinating, communicating, translating work going on at different levels/units
Preparing for ABET a year from now (Engineering and Technology).
Since ABET focuses on undergraduates, bring grad education assessment up to equal level.
Translate competency based assessment into language that other units understand, like the PGPLS (Dentistry).
Question: What’s up with PUL 2.0? What next?

Determine how and where to collect and interpret meaningful data for accreditation.
Coordinate at the school level the various things occurring in departments.

Focus on PGPLs and how they connect with curriculum.
Help faculty to gain a common understanding of goals, including direct assessment standardized in system-wide courses.
New faculty development

Develop faculty buy-in; assessment initiative is localized in individuals and there is still resistance among other members of the faculty.
Maintain a concern for efficiency.
Marshalling support for assessment.

Additional items from discussions

ABA reaccreditation (Law)
Self-education
Assessment that focuses on student activities outside of class (Honors College)
Five-year review this fall (Honors College)
Develop/improve exit surveys
Need for guidelines
Review PRAC report format
Coordination of assessment across programs
Evaluate the scheduling of surveys
Update Civic Minded Graduate rubric
Move toward implementation of online course evaluations –BLUE
Revise reports
Expand and implement more robust assessment within unit.
Increase faculty participation.
Ongoing program review
Increase efficiency of assessment. Eliminate redundancy.
Assess PGPLs better.
Bring assessment at branch locations up to level of IUPUI campus.
Consider professional benefits of assessment for those who participate.
Tighten connection to PGPL
Unify the vision.
Review competitor schools and their assessment.