Institutional Assessment Committee  
December 7, 2005  
Minutes

Meeting was convened at 3:30 p.m. in the Administration Building Conference Room.

Present were: Dr. M. Suzanne Clinton, Chair; Dr. Larry Kruse, Dr. Karla Oty; Dr. Mary Dzindolet, Don Aguilar, Edna McMillan, Carolyn Kinslow, Tom Sutherland and Jon Ella Long

Absent: Dr. Gary Buckley, Dr. Sylvia Miller

1. Approval of April 25, 2005, minutes

Minutes from the April 25, 2005, meeting of this committee were distributed to those present. Dr. Clinton asked for a motion to accept these minutes, which was made by Dr. Larry Kruse, and the minutes were approved.

2. Priorities for the Institutional Assessment Committee

   A. Update of CAAP Tests

   Mr. Tom Sutherland reported that CAAP provides individualized scores for each student as well as identifying test groups to which we belong and individualized student populations. Discussion was held about CAAP scores and how they relate to the students at Cameron University and other institutions. CAAP results are included in the annual Student Assessment Report for 2004-2005 activity and shows how we stack up nationally, and we are not approaching the national norm.

   B. Issues with Measurement of Critical Thinking

   We have not been taking data on critical thinking and need to find an “honors” course to do this. Mr. Sutherland would like to measure sophomores and after five years of data we could add seniors. Discussion was held about how to best do this because the problem is that you have a lot of sophomores, juniors and seniors in the same class. Don Aguilar asked if there is a requirement for 100 for a sample. Mr. Sutherland said we have talked about finding a teacher who would support it and do a good job instead of looking for a particular class. Mr. Aguilar said students do not feel a loyalty to these tests. Mr. Sutherland said the way to get a good result is to have a teacher who will be dedicated to the process. Some schools have an “Assessment Day,” and this works well, but there has been resistance to this in the past. He said it would be good to have a sample from a variety of disciplines and perhaps this could be done the first week of February if we could get some volunteers. Dr. Clinton then asked those present if they would volunteer or know of others who would volunteer. Several members volunteered at least one class: Don Aguilar, Ms. McMillan, Dr. Dzindolet, Dr. Oty for example.


This report is required by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Included in it is a summary of the PQIRs. Mr. Sutherland explained some of the data that is included, in particular the students who do remediation, those who benefit from it and those who don’t. Dr. Clinton said this will be on the agenda next month also.
4. IAC Committee Member Responsibilities and Duties

Dr. Clinton said responsibilities for the members of this committee are outlined in the Faculty Handbook. She would like to increase the enthusiasm about assessment this year. Anyone on campus is welcome to come to the meetings. Perhaps the committee could propose some training to some of the other departments. Edna McMillan said this has helped in her department to get better quality. Dr. Clinton may do an assessment schedule for the semester. She also said one thing the departments will be given are the PQIRs. The committee needs to get a better idea about what the departments are doing on campus.

Mr. Sutherland said all the tools of assessment are on the Higher Learning Commission website and this is very helpful. HLC has increased materials for indirect measures. Mr. Sutherland has talked to a company in Kansas to develop a model to do this. They come to the campus and develop measurements for each school. Dr. Kruse said an assessment schedule is a very good idea because assessment is directly related to accountability. We need this data in order to respond the HLC. Mr. Sutherland said if there is a better way to do this let's do it.

5. Other

Dr. Clinton said we need to set up a regular, monthly time. We will be setting this up in the spring.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Ella Long
Institutional Assessment Committee
December 7, 2005
Agenda

1. Approval of April 25, 2005, Minutes

2. Priorities for the Institutional Assessment Committee
   A. Update of CAAP Tests
   B. Issues with Measurement of Creative Thinking


4. IAC Committee Member Responsibilities and Duties

5. Other