

Outcomes Assessment Meeting 2/9/10

Attendees:

Pria Alpern
Donna Dolinsky
Jacquie Fraser
Carole Griffiths
Sara Haden
Trish Keogh
Dawn Kilts
Valerie Lava
Kathleen Modrowski
Kathy Morley
Maureen Nappi
Nicole Nehrig
Gladys Schrynemakers
Philip Wong
Anne Zahradnik
Tina Zerilli

Phase I updates:

School of Business:

- Plans have all been submitted
- Monthly School of Business hands-on workshops have been helpful
- Finalized reporting requirements for the school

Conolly College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Science Division:

- Biology is submitted to Ed Donahue
- Physics and Math—would have been better to ask for one goal for service and one goal for science
- The Dean of the college has requested that all departments hand in Phase 1 reports to him no later than February 15th, 2010

Role of Liaisons:

The role of the OA committee liaison was discussed, liaisons are to:

- Support needs of department by providing resources, guidance, and education on ways of framing their work, NOT to be the supervisor of departments—that is the role of the directors and the deans

- Also important for liaisons to communicate any issues or concerns to the committee and/or deans

School of Education:

- Preparing for visit by accrediting body (TEAC) in the fall
- Producing a lot of data—struggle to determine how to use what they have to meet the needs of student learning objectives
- Need to extract the student learning expectations from accrediting body's requirements and translate them into the overall language of the university's plan
- The OA committee agreed to assist school in the translation process of a common student learning language

Library:

- Put Part I on WebCT but did not transfer over well
- Formatting reports on WebCT will be reviewed

Global College:

- Phase I is done but it has not been posted yet
- They are rewriting their vision and mission statement by 2/18 and the report will be posted then
- Working through the university system has allowed for a common language and format
- Largest centers are forming their own assessment committees and going beyond to create their own plans
- Using IDI (Intercultural Diversity Index)—direct measure of global awareness
- Also use indirect measures—talking to home stay families

School of Nursing:

- Meeting this afternoon to review direct and indirect methods
- Having a day-long workshop on OA with staff and faculty
- Have 14 new faculty since fall 2008 so they need to be made aware of the student learning objectives and tools—put everyone on the same level
- The Dean discussed at length the many measures used by the School of Nursing

- EBI—extensive online questionnaire measuring student’s perception of the learning experience—can also measure alums, supervisors to get at strengths and weaknesses of students
- HASI testing—students are compared against themselves and to other schools to ensure that course content has been assimilated—drives curriculum to a large extent
- Lori Knapp, Kathy Morley, and Gladys Schrynemakers will meet to discuss on to abstract the work that the School of Nursing is doing to make transparent the Student Learning Goals/Objectives for the School.

Communications Division:

- 3 departments have submitted and 3 have not
- She is working with those who have not: Dance, Visual Arts, Communications Studies

Social Sciences Division:

- Economics was the only department that had not submitted but Gladys worked with them to bring it up to par
- The remaining departments are submitted
- Currently working on Phase II

Phase II reports will be due at the end of May

StudentVoice has webinars on how to interpret and report data

Liaisons should be resources to each other for ideas and support

School of Pharmacy:

- Phase I report was submitted in November
- In process of reviewing and modifying rubrics so it may be difficult to finish in time for the end of May deadline but Gladys said the deadline is flexible
- Using StudentVoice to analyze the data
- 3 assessments in Phase I report are course-embedded assessments which is new
- Some confusion whether the graduate programs need to submit Phase I reports—the graduate departments are being revised so it is difficult to create a long-term plan
- Kathy said there needs to be more than one report for all of Pharmacy

Health Professions:

- All divisions have submitted and uploaded Phase I reports
- Met in January to talk about next steps and everyone has begun collecting the data

Update on University Assessment:

- Looking at NSSE data
- Have a rubric from Middle States for what they're looking for on a site visit—handout for all to look at
- Long-term projects: creating a university wide assessment plan
- Met with Middle States rep who provided new information about current expectations:
 - In 2003, 25% of self-studies needed some kind of follow-up. In 2005, this percentage was 75%—the areas in which institutions are having difficulty include institutional assessment, planning resource allocation and institution renewal, and assessment of student learning
 - 100% of academic programs need to be doing assessment—cannot be in the beginning phases in assessment any longer; should be in place by now
 - Have to not only be doing assessment but also showing that we're using that data to make changes and the institutional resources are used to support those changes

Outcomes Assessment Committee Co-Chair added:

- Learning goals need to be transparent at all levels—student, faculty, department, university...
- E.g., English department—collected data showing that literacy must improve on campus. They are looking at how to change English 14 on curriculum level, as well as how to augment reading level in general throughout the university, and then how to measure that these interventions are creating change

Focus Group Discussion about the Campus Mission:

A sub-group of the assessment committee is going to begin working on developing focus groups to re-invest the campus in the Brooklyn Campus mission statement. The mission is the narrative that should be at the beginning of all assessment on the campus. It is the narrative that school, department/program missions should be derived from. Valerie Lava, Ilana Kramer, and Pria Alpern will begin to design the focus group discussions around the following guiding principles.

- How do academic programs, co-curricular programs live within our mission statement?
- How are our department/program missions connect to the campus mission
- We are going to pilot one focus group this spring with undergraduate faculty by invitation—targeting new faculty, senior faculty, diversity...
- Will then do a content analysis of the themes
- Will do graduate faculty and undergraduate and graduate students next
- There will be a call to committee members to recommend people to participate
- Suggestion was made to bring together students and faculty together in a focus group

NSSE Data Analysis:

Philip Wong and the graduate students are moving forward in analyzing data from three NSSE surveys 2004-2008. The NSSE data is being analyzed as it pertains to the Brooklyn Campus Learning Goals and Objectives

- A committee member asked if the data could be culled by department. No—the sampling is randomly selected freshman and senior students and is done overall, not by department

Upcoming Event:

There will be a faculty forum within the next month focused on rubrics to measure student learning. There will also be a series of shorter workshops on working with rubrics run by faculty members. Dates will be announced shortly.