

**Assessment Committee**  
**May 17, 2007**  
**Fetzer Boardroom**

**Members present:** Noni Threinen (**Chair**), Mary Berg, Jane Richardson, Kren McManus, Pat Casello, Angie Przybylski, Rachel Preisinger

**Absent:** Renee DeVries, Don Eggebrecht, Xianhui Yang

**Review March 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes:**

*Motion to Approve* (Berg, Richardson)

Approved

**Announcements and Review of Summer Agenda**

- We have created a list of meeting dates and corresponding agenda items for the term
- During the summer term, Dr. Threinen usually creates an annual assessment report for the University. Since the College of Chiropractic Annual Assessment Report is still in progress, we will wait to look at the Program Reports using the rubric until this Report has been received. Since the UAC is an oversight committee for the University Assessment Programs, this is an important part of our responsibilities.
- We will also do an Assessment of University level programs using the Assessment Culture Matrix.
- We will be starting an Accreditation Self-Study in the Fall term. We were behind in the area of assessment at the time of our last monitoring visit in 2003 and we want to be sure that we are caught up before the next visit.

***Discussion:***

- Dr. Bartlett leads a Chiropractic Assessment Committee with approximately 10 members. The committee was divided into three or four sub-committees, which were asked to complete program goals for the University Learning Outcome Criteria. The small groups have not yet met and the committee has been dormant since March.
- In the Massage Therapy program, University Learning Outcome Criteria have been addressed by individual faculty members, rather than by a group. Faculty include the criteria in the design of their syllabi, but their locations throughout the curriculum have never been mapped.
- MCAOM has performed clinical assessments. In the Western curriculum, there is more crossover between classes and rubrics have been built into the grading system. Dr. Tuchscherer, John Pirog, and Mark McKenzie oversee assessment within the program and track program effectiveness. They are now asking each faculty member to detail what he or she is

- teaching. Each of the eight University Learning Outcomes have been broken out for each class in the Western program.
- The syllabi for all programs are now online.
  - Massage Therapy objectives are very general on syllabi, but are more detailed in lecture notes.
  - The Massage Therapy program is also in the process of implementing a comprehensive final exam.
  - The Chiropractic Program has course objectives, but these are not necessarily tied to the overall University Learning Objectives.

### **Review of Program Assessment Rubric**

- This is the same rubric we used last year in reviewing the Annual Program Assessment Reports. The rubric has never included descriptions of each of the rating points on the scale. Adding such descriptions would make this a stronger tool with greater inter-rater reliability.

### **Assessment Culture Matrix**

- A few years ago, two faculty focus groups were formed to use the Assessment Culture matrix. Each focus group member was asked to fill out the Matrix questionnaire and to then report their scores. Group scores were determined and the groups then discussed their understanding of each part of the matrix.
- It is time we consider repeating this process. This would give us an idea of where faculty are at this point. It would also support assessment as an issue in the campus community.
- We can randomly select participants from each of the three programs. Incentives such as free lunch vouchers will be given to encourage participation.
- Dr. Threinen is willing to serve as the facilitator, but feels that it would be best to have someone who could be completely unbiased about the topic. Since Angie has experience leading focus groups, she will lead these groups instead and Rachel will serve as the note-taker.
- We will plan to review focus group results at one of our meetings this term.

### **Action Items**

- Rachel will email Dr. Bartlett requesting the minutes from the Chiropractic Assessment Committee's most recent meeting.
- IE will figure out a system for tracking action items in UAC minutes
- UAC members will look at learning objectives within their own programs, paying attention to whether or not learner-centered terms are consistently used. They will determine whether there is a relationship between these

- objectives and the overall University Learning Objectives and will also note whether or not the objectives have been assessed.
- IE will develop descriptions for the rubric scale and will bring the rubric to the next meeting for approval.
  - Dr. Threinen will review the process for the assessment matrix faculty focus groups held in 2004.

**Future Agenda Items:**

The next meeting will be held on **May 31<sup>st</sup>** from **9am-10am** in the **Fetzer Board Room**.

*Motion to Close (Threinen)*

Meeting adjourned at 9:50am.

Minutes submitted by: Rachel Preisinger

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Noni Threinen, D.C., Chair  
University Assessment Committee