

Inaugural Meeting of University Assessment Council  
February 8, 2016  
Minutes

Present: Dr. Ric Berry, Dr. Todd Brown, Dr. Mary Nelle Brunson, Dr. Steve Bullard, Dr. Anjum Najjmi, Dr. Jannah Nerren, Dr. Debbie Pace, Prof. Scott Shattuck, Dr. Robert Szafran, Dr. Hans Williams

Members represent the following areas:

Anjum Najmi – Library  
Hans Williams – Forestry  
Debbie Pace – Sciences and Mathematics  
Scott Shattuck – Fine Arts  
Bob Szafran – Liberal and Applied Arts  
Todd Brown – Business  
Jannah Nerren – Education  
Ric Berry – Graduate School  
Louise Stoehr – Academic Affairs Committee of Faculty Senate

The UASC discussed adding a representative from the chairs forum.

Discussion of the SACS 5<sup>th</sup> report:

- Due March 2017
- Dr. Larry King writing the assessment piece of the 5<sup>th</sup> year report.
- If we open up a Lone Star site, we would need a site visit.

Discussion of the importance of the information in the following readings:

- Using Evidence of Student Learning to Improve Student Learning, by George Kuh (It would be helpful if the UASC reads this book.)
- Dr. Bullard expressed that if the UASC wants a copy of the book, to make that request.
- NILOA occasional paper #23

Discussion of the role of the UAC:

- Emphasis on the importance of the council in hearing and responding to faculty voice – even if it is negative.
- Assessment is not necessarily leading to student learning- WHAT is the value?
- Core Curriculum Assessment Committee – any major changes would need to come to the University Assessment Steering Council.

- Dr. Bullard will meet with Dr. King's office staff soon to communicate the committee's charge and how that fits with Dr. King's office.
- A forum like the PCOE Data Day might be a good initiative. Highlight excellent examples and move forward with streamlining our assessment system.

Discussion regarding processes for the UAC:

- If the Core Curriculum Assessment Committee wants to make a change, they submit changes to UASC Chair, Dr. Nerren, who submits to UASC. The UASC Chair then will share with campus assessment professionals.
- If faculty wants to propose a change they should go to Core Curriculum Assessment Committee, then to the UASC, then to assessment leadership group, if not resolved, ultimately to the Provost.
- If disagree, then the request for change can go straight to Core Curriculum Advisory Committee, another entity that is separate from Core Curriculum Assessment Committee.
- Is there a purpose statement or a mission statement for the Core Curriculum Advisory Committee? If so, this would be helpful in guiding the University Assessment Council.
- A task of the UASC is to ensure faculty engagement in student learning outcomes assessment.

Discussion regarding SACS report:

- Dr. Brunson reported that a pressing issue to begin reviewing and helping with the report – the assessment piece for the 5-year report.
- From the McLawhon report there are many red areas that are with the action plans.