

Assessment Interim Report
August – December, 2005
Prepared by Dr. Penny Parzyjagla

The Assessment Committee (AC) for the academic year 2005/6 was formed in August. It is comprised of representatives of each academic area:

Ann Brummel
Shirley Cain
Ron Carpenter
Julie Desjarlais
Scott Hanson
Andy Johnson
Rollin Kekabah
Eric Loge
Denise Marcellais
Sandra Wolf

The committee has a regularly scheduled meeting each week. In addition the committee discusses concerns through email and discussion boards.

Our first priority was to set up a database and resource center that could be accessed by all faculty. Andy Johnson graciously prepared a WebCT area that contained links to all assessment reports, NCA responses to TMCC reports, minutes and agendas of all meetings, discussion boards and informational documents related to assessment.

The focus of this semester was to follow through on the report submitted (and accepted) in July, 2005. Specifically, faculty are required to complete assessment reports on a semester basis. The first reports were collated on December 12, 2005. This is the first year that all documents were required to be submitted online. The other documents the committee will collect will be due in May, 2006. Prior to then, the committee is reviewing the format and content of these documents, to ensure that they are valid and reliable.

In addition, a room has been stocked with assessment resources and file cabinets for Assessment Committee use. This room is in the faculty office area and is accessible to all faculty. Academic Dean, Larry Henry, has the key.

The committee has initiated a review and revision of the Faculty Assessment Manual. Ron Carpenter is chairing this sub-committee. This document will be completed by May, 2006

The committee established a seminar series on topics relevant to course assessment. These presentations are scheduled throughout the year. The first presentation was regarding “service learning”. The rest of the presentations are scheduled for Spring, 2006. Julie Desjarlais is chairing this sub-committee.

The committee also studied the process for evaluating the General Education program. It was determined that the procedure will remain as is, and rely on BASE Test scores.

As a side project, the committee voted support to establishing a Faculty Senate. This decision stems from the comment NCA made regarding the need faculty-directed activities. To this end, the committee invited a presentation by Ann Brummel during one of its meetings. Ann Brummel is co-chairing this committee .with Audrey Lavallie.

In December, the Committee Chair spoke with Jim Davis to ensure that he was aware of our work, concerns and progress. To this end, Dr. Davis was added to our WebCT group.

The goals for the 2006 semester are:

1. Create a capstone course to assess the AA/AS degrees
2. Continue to collect data
3. Prepare a Report for NCA
4. Discuss how to fully include adjunct faculty in assessment – further to a report submitted by adjunct faculty member Misty Wuori

