



University Assessment Committee

October 29, 2015 Minutes

www.valdosta.edu/uac/

Time: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Location: West Hall Room 118

Members present: Dr. Michael Black, Dr. Byron Brown, Mrs. Melinda Cutchens, Mr. Michael Holt, Dr. Hanae Kanno, Dr. Jerry Merwin, Mr. Shawn Phippen, Dr. Deborah Robson, Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, Mr. Brandon Mainer and Mrs. Natalie Kuhlmann

Members absent: Dr. Ray Elson, Dr. James Holland, Mr. Marc Kaiser, Dr. Jane Kinney, and Dr. Christy Yates

Guest(s): Ms. Niki Turley and Ms. Pat Rozier

Dr. Michael Black (Chair) called the University Assessment Committee (UAC) meeting to order on Thursday, October 29, 2015 at 9:00 am in West Hall Room 118.

Approval of the minutes of September 24, 2015 meeting – The September 24 minutes were distributed and approved.

Dr. Black distributed a handout about *Three Things Presidents Need to Know about Student Learning Outcomes Assessment* (<http://www.acenet.edu/the-presidency/columns-and-features/Pages/Perspective-.aspx>) which appeared in the recent American Council on Education (ACE) fall issue.

Mrs. Natalie Kuhlmann reported about attending and presenting at the 2015 Assessment Institute in Indianapolis, IN. Presentation topics concentrated heavily on student learning outcomes, assessing student learning outcomes, assessments, and engaging faculty in assessments.

- Question: What is the trend in assessment and learning outcomes? Mrs. Kuhlmann said they were told that faculty should be more engaged in assessment practices to better meet student learning outcome objectives.
- Question regarding student affairs learning outcomes. Mrs. Kuhlmann said there was only one presentation on the agenda for student affairs.
- Question regarding library assessment. Mrs. Kuhlmann said there were none or perhaps one presentation on library assessment.
- To access the **Assessment Institute**:
 - Assessment Institute in Indianapolis - <http://planning.iupui.edu/institute/>
 - 2015 Assessment Institute Handouts - <http://planning.iupui.edu/institute/>
 - 2015 Assessment Institute Program - <http://www.assessmentinstitute.iupui.edu/details.shtml>
 - Click on **Program Booklet**

Mr. Holt added that the Odum Library is in the process of revamping the information literacy assessments and learning outcomes. The [Association of College & Research Libraries](#) (ACRL) introduced a new framework for information literacy standards to assess how we teach students to do research while tying to specific learning outcomes.

Dr. Black attend the [National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships](#) (NACEP) in Denver, CO. VSU is in the process of reinvigorating our dual enrollment program with area high schools. He talked about the workshops to become an accredited concurrent education institution. There are no 4-year institutions in Georgia that are accredited by NACEP.

Mrs. Kuhlmann added that she spoke with Dr. Peter Ewell (President of the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems) about potentially presenting to the COEHS. His visit would be an excellent opportunity to provide training to more university faculty on assessment practices.



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Dr. Black asked Dr. Merwin to report on new changes with eMajor. Dr. Merwin said that USG has been studying designing competency-based education programs, and there is a pilot project scheduled for Spring 2016 in the College of Education and Human Services. USG has been working with Ellucian, Banner's parent company, to identify the best methods to track student records for CBE participants.

VSU now has six to eight partners involved with eMajor. Programs in eMajor include Legal Assistant, Office Administration and Technology, Organizational Leadership, and recently Spanish and French.

The University of West Georgia will now be the lead institution for eMajor, and Dr. Merwin will be the head of the academic aspect. There will be Curriculum Leadership committees for each degree program for academic oversight including program review. The official administrative change-over will occur January 1, 2016. The Curriculum Leadership committee will be meeting in Macon on November 2 and November 11 to discuss transition, set up course schedules, and staffing of instructors.

What kind of competency-based program will be used? USG has examined several systems. Some use regular courses online but allow students to move through modules at their own pace. With competency-based, students can start anytime and pay by subscription rather than a flat tuition. A team from the Wisconsin University System visited recently to discuss how they are doing. Subscription rates range from \$2,500 to \$4,000 depending on four- to six-months. The subscription method creates problematic issues for financial aid.

Dr. Black informed the committee that several IERs/IEPs have been received and are being uploaded into LiveText. A reminder has been sent to the Administrative Units who have not yet submitted requesting reports/plans by the end of the week. This year is particularly important because exhibits will be in the Fifth-Year Interim report. The Reviewer rotation schedule was sent to the committee members on October 14, 2015 by email. Reviewers should have reviews completed by November 30, 2015.

The committee broke out into groups of two for a norming session to review two sets of IERs/IEPs (Administrative and Academic). Dr. Black demonstrated to the committee how to complete the online feedback form for the two reports and plans.

Announcements:

Congratulations to Mr. Shawn Phippen on the birth of a son, Levi.

Digital Measures Training Classes

- January 25, 2016 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- February 25, 2016 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
- March 29, 2016 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
- April 20, 2016 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

The VSU Innovation Grant Proposal application is available.

<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/institutional-effectiveness/innovate/welcome.php>

Innovation Grant Applications are due on January 11, 2016.

UAC Meeting Schedule for Fall 2015 – West Hall Room 118

Schedule meeting dates and times

- Thursday, Nov 19 9:00 – 10:00 am

In December, a doodle poll will be sent to help schedule UAC Spring 2016 meeting dates.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.