



The University Assessment Council

Minutes

November 27, 2018

210D Reese Phifer

Attendance: Jon Acker, Viola Acoff, Ginger Bishop, Chris Coleman, George Daniels, Sarah Fitzgerald, Ronnie Jackson, Robin Lawson, Grace Lee, Joyce Meyer, Mary Kay Meyer, Lesley Reid, Cecil Robinson, Tim Salazar, Kim Smalley, Liza Wilson

- Cecil R. led a discussion about building meaningful, collaborative, improvement-minded assessment from the ground up [slides attached below]. Key discussion points included the purpose of and motivation for assessment (“Why does ‘use of results’ appear to be an afterthought?”), associations with “the ‘A’ word,” culture change, strategies to engage colleagues, the idea of improvement science (a current Carnegie focus), alternatives to “superficial” curriculum maps, the value of timelines, and answers to the question, “How can we as a campus get better at improving?”

- Chris C. Announcements:
 - The Peer Assessment Feedback (PAF) pilot was well-received and beneficial for all involved; OIE plans to scale it up and offer the program during the summer beginning in 2019. For the 2019 iteration, we want to give UAC members “early registration” (i.e., first chance to sign up). More details to come after Christmas.
 - For programs that teach/assess Ethical Reasoning, a week-long training event is to be held at James Madison University in July of 2019 (Learning Improvement in Action: Enhancing Ethical Reasoning Skills”). A promotional flier was shared with all UAC attendees.
 - An additional flier was shared, for the First Year Writing program’s ePortfolio Showcase event on December 6 and 7 (Ferg). 12 sections of English 101 implemented eportfolio assignments (mostly using Taskstream LAT) for the first time this semester.

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting: January 22nd