The University Assessment Council

Minutes
February 26, 2019
210D Reese Phifer

Attendance: Chris Coleman, Fran Conners, George Daniels, Sarah Fitzgerald, Holly Hallmann, Robin Lawson, Grace Lee, Cecil Robinson, Tim Salazar, Rachel Thompson, Liza Wilson

- Chris C. announced that, unfortunately, no OAA scholarships to the SACSCOC Summer Institute—for faculty to attend the teaching/learning/assessment track—can be offered this year. That’s because of the attendance cap imposed by SACSCOC (no more than 5 people from an institution); with our 5th Year Report less than 2 years away, the 5 slots are needed for OAA and OIE representatives.

- Rachel T. reported that last week’s FRC Faculty Technology Showcase was successful and well-attended, with over 100 participants. Some of the presenters have agreed to make short videos summarizing their innovative use of technology. More details are available on the website; the annual event is typically held in late February.

- Chris C. provided a recap of last week’s national conference on High Impact Practices as well as some handouts on HIPS, including the 11 AACU-identified types and the 8 key elements of a HIP. Our Division of Student Life has already done an audit to identify its high-impact programming, and OAA plans to do something similar/parallel as part of the Gen Ed Review process. The research literature shows that HIPs, when implemented well, enhance student learning and success.

- Heather P. provided the group with NSSE awareness fliers that will soon be distributed to all faculty/staff by the Provost. The survey (National Survey of Student Engagement), for freshmen and seniors, is running now and will be open through May 15. Among other questions, the NSSE asks students about their experiences with faculty/advisors/staff and participation in HIPs.

- Summer: Based on Doodle poll results, OIE will check BCC availability for 2 events to be held in May: UAC Retreat (half-day), and Peer Assessment Feedback (2 days).

- The group endorsed the idea of a web-based Honor Roll for assessment reporting (to be updated and announced each spring). The basic criteria would mirror those established for the Provost’s Assessment Award (average rating in Mature range, with no critical flaws [e.g., lack of data or coherent action plans]). Cecil suggested that we could use tiers (e.g., Gold/Silver/Bronze), an idea OIE will explore. In any case, all reporting units—not only degree programs—will be eligible.
• The group did not have time to create an “annual assessment timeline” template for general distribution. Chris C. will work on that and solicit input before the March meeting. The purpose is to create a general template that could be tailored to help any program/assessment coordinator stay on track with annual assessment processes.

Meeting adjourned
Next meeting: March 26th