The University Assessment Council

Minutes
September 22, 2020
Zoom: https://uasystem.zoom.us/j/93120561364

Attendees
Viola Acoff, Ginger Bishop, Christy Cole, Chris Coleman, Fran Conners, Allison Curington, Holly Hallman, Lauren Holmes, Deidre Leaver-Dunn, Grace Lee, Joyce Meyer, Michele Montgomery, Cathy Pagani, Cecil Robinson, Rachel Thompson, Liza Wilson

• Introductions/Unit Updates

• Update from Jon Acker (OIRA): I just finished the Graduation/Exit Survey reports. I uploaded them to UA Box and sent access to all of the AC members to get their college data. If anyone didn’t get the notice, have them write to me (jon.acker@ua.edu). I had data collection issues with these surveys in April and May and didn’t really start getting good feedback until June-July which is why I’m so late finishing them. I know there isn’t much time left for the October 1 deadline for many units. I’ve had requests from Math and Chemistry for these data. I’ll write them back and tell them Fran has the data now.

• OIE Screening of 10/1 Assessment Reports
  1. Are there SLOs in place?
  2. Are there Findings reported for each of the last 3 cycles?
  3. In the last 3 cycles, is there at least one Action Plan that shows the program is seeking improvement in learning?
  4. Is COVID-19 mentioned in the 2019-20 cycle? (Findings/Reflection or Actions)

In early October, OIE will reach out to programs that appear to have gaps in one or more of the above areas. After the special screening process, we’ll start doing our usual rubric-based feedback reports.
• Evidence of Seeking Improvement (continued)
  o Vignettes to illustrate common uses of results. Main takeaway: Changes to assessment processes, while necessary and natural at times, do not constitute evidence of seeking improvement in learning.
  o New programs (launched in past 2-3 years) do not have to worry about this element for the 5th Year Interim Report. They should be building their processes and beginning to collect data. In our 8.2.a narrative, we’ll note which programs are new and thus should not be expected to be in full compliance with the standard yet.

• Additional/alternative ways to recognize/honor good assessment work
  (current mechanisms = Assessment Award and Honor Roll)
  >Look for Qualtrics survey requesting (anonymous) ideas in October
  >Also look for Schoolhouse Rock quiz URL!

Next Meeting
October 27, 2020