

March 16 Minutes

Henderson State University Assessment Team

Meeting Minutes

Wilson Room, Garrison Center, 4:00 p.m.

March 16, 2015

Present: Angela Boswell; Nathan Campbell; Deb Coventry, co-chair; Daniel Fitzroy; Bernie Hellums; Lloyd Moyo; Ginger Otwell; Paige Reagan; Brett Serviss, co-chair; Sheryl Strother; Wrenette Tedder; Bob Yehl

Absent: Stephen Adkison; Claire Howard; Lenette Jones; Beth Ann Maxfield; January Schultz; Drew Smith; Celya Taylor; Dale Van Noy

Next Meeting: April 20, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Brett Serviss, Co-Chair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes from the February 9, 2015 meeting were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Update. The HLC Steering Committee met the previous Friday and discussed the upcoming due date for the initial draft of the Assurance Argument. The Committee made the decision to push back the due date for the draft in light of the numerous snow days over the previous month. The new date for the Assurance Argument drafts from the Criterion Committees is April 6th, allowing a cleaned up version to be ready by April 10th.

Wrenette Tedder stressed that the Assurance Argument is essential for continued accreditation of the University and the work being done is extremely important. The Assurance Argument must be accepted by the HLC in order for the University to remain on the Open Pathways accreditation pathway.

Arkansas Association for the Assessment of Collegiate Learning (AAACL) Upcoming

Conference. Wrenette Tedder announced that the AAACL will be holding their 2015 Spring Conference on April 23rd at Pulaski Technical College in North Little Rock. The Conference will

feature keynote speaker Dr. Peggy Maki, a specialist in integrating assessment of student learning into educational institutions. While the exact topic has not been chosen, the general theme will be student learning assessment. Wrenette Tedder will share more information when it becomes available and invited the members of the Assessment Team to participate if they were interested.

OLD BUSINESS

Continued Review of Rubric and Evaluation of Academic Assessment Plans. Now that the Revised Rubric has been used on the initial round of evaluating Academic Assessment Plans, the Assessment Team continued reviewing the new rubric. It was noted that the new rubric worked fairly well during the evaluation process. The team discussed at length a few sections of the Revised Rubric where it was difficult to pick one rating due to the rating's particular wording. Suggestions for improvement were made and noted. It was decided to keep the Rubric in its current form for now while the rest of the Academic Assessment Plans are evaluated over the next month.

During the discussion, one team member asked whether or not the Assessment Team had the power to enforce compliance of completing Assessment Plans. There was general agreement that there needed to be measures taken to increase compliance rates. One suggestion proposed was to change the deadline for the plans. Currently there is one deadline in October for the whole plan. The proposed change to the deadline would create two deadlines: one deadline for the Plan and collected data; one deadline for the Department's discussion, Follow-up Actions, and new plan going forward. It was felt that this new deadline structure may help drive more compliance, especially in the Follow-up sections.

NEW BUSINESS

Assignment of Final Round of Academic Assessment Plan Review. In order to finish evaluating the remainder of the Academic Assessment Plans, Wrenette Tedder will create groups of two team members and assign these groups 3-4 Assessment Plans. These groups will need to evaluate their assigned Assessment Plans by the April meeting of the Assessment Team.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Fitzroy, Secretary