University-Wide Assessment Committee
Student Development
May 17, 2012
3:00 p.m., EHFA 164

**Members present:** John Beard, Jean Ann Brakefield, Jennie Cassidy, Whitney Comer, Allison Faix, Stephen Harrison, Tara Josey, Anne Monk, Travis Overton, Frankie Weeks, Tom Woodle

**Members absent:** Chris Mee, Geoff Parsons, Caesar Ross, Pat Singleton-Young

Opening Remarks

The meeting was convened at 3:00 p.m. in EHFA 164.

Focus Groups

Discussion of each student focus group continued from the previous meeting. The following recommendations were made. The individual or department that should receive the recommendation is also identified.

Tim McCormick’s group as reported by Steve Harrison

- A Strategic Plan for Parking is needed in order to promote short term answers to the current parking issues. A public relations campaign would also be helpful. (Stacie Bowie, Debbie Connor)
- Additional shuttle service during peak times should be added to transport staff/faculty from the main parking lots to locations around campus. (Dean Hudson)
- Class scheduling (both the availability and variation of classes) could be improved (Dan Lawless, Academic Deans)

Jennie Cassidy will compile the recommendations from the focus groups and a form letter will be created to notify the appropriate contacts. It was decided that in some cases, a personal meeting may be beneficial to discuss particular requests and/or recommendations. The recommendations will also be shared with the Vice President of Student Affairs and her assistance will be requested.

Poster Session

On May 22, 2012, there will be a poster session in the Student Center room 206. Posters from each Student Affairs department will be on display beginning at 2:00 pm.

Benchmarking Study

Cassidy collected the data from the Staffing benchmarking study and will compile the results before the Fall semester. Results will be shared with the committee at that time.

Meeting Time for Next Year
Cassidy suggested that a new meeting time be considered for the Fall semester. Discussion ensued regarding the most suitable time. Cassidy will notify the committee once the schedule has been determined.

Three Research Questions

Discussion of the three research questions continued from previous meetings.

2. Are those students who engage in “integrated activities” becoming “productive, responsible, healthy citizens” more than those who do become engaged?

Tara Josey reported that based on the results of the Senior Exit Survey; there was a minimal difference between students who reported involvement and those who did not. It will be useful to look at this data again in the Fall when the most recent NSSE results are available.

Recommendations Based on NSSE

Discussion of the recommendations based on the results of the NSSE continued from a previous meeting.

Cassidy reported that the request for increased availability of services online will be addressed this summer.

The suggestion that an extra-curricular component be required for graduation needs to go to Faculty Senate. John Beard reported that the College of Business has received the approval of the Faculty Senate for the requirement of nine credits and will begin to implement this requirement.

Cassidy recommended that the suggestion for additional seating/lounging space around campus be passed on to the VP of Student Affairs.

Steve Harrison reported that the new housing community is making significant progress and will be useful in developing living/learning communities as suggested.

In regards to a suggestion that study abroad opportunities be increased, John Beard reported that there are many programs available, but not highly promoted. He also suggested that expense is a hindrance and that financial support is lacking for study abroad.

Beard also reported that the Student Learning group has discussed the need for improvement in critical thinking skills and is looking at a package of topics that need to be addressed in workshops for faculty through CeTeal.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the University-Wide Assessment Committee – Student Development will be scheduled for August 2012. There being no further time to discuss business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.