Members present: John Beard, Jennie Cassidy, Travis Overton, Caesar Ross, Tara Saville, Pat Singleton-Young, Frankie Weeks

Members absent: Jean Ann Brakefield, Whitney Comer, Allison Faix, Bruce Gregory, Steve Harrison, Chris Mee, Geoff Parsons, Tara Saville, Tom Woodle

Opening Remarks

Jennie Cassidy, Chair, convened the meeting at 3:00 p.m. in the Dawsey Conference Room and welcomed all present.

UWAC Update

Cassidy reported that Dr. Sheehan attended the last UWAC meeting to discuss the Executive Report submitted by the UWAC. John Beard reported that because of the gap in time between when the recommendations are made from each subcommittee and when the report is submitted, many of the recommendations may have already been addressed. He told the committee that this process will be reviewed by the UWAC in order to reflect ongoing changes and improvements in the year end report.

Update on Leadership Assessment

Whitney Comer will be in touch with committee members to schedule training sessions for the leadership assessment. Tokens are available if anyone is interested in trying the survey in the meantime.

Student Services Focus Groups

Cassidy reminded the committee that focus groups are part of the assessment plan this year for all areas of student services. The focus groups are a way to assess what students feel is going well, what needs improvement and to tell us what they would like to see. A diverse group of students is needed. Travis Overton suggested that when it comes to website improvements, it may be useful to provide examples of what is available and have students identify what appeals to them.

John Beard suggested that the focus groups could assist in determining what students mean by their responses to surveys. Cassidy recommended that five or six general questions be generated with addition specific questions to supplement.

Pat Singleton-Young suggested creating a special invitation from the deans/coaches, etc. that would motivate students to attend.

Cassidy will e-mail a list of dates to the committee to choose from for early October/late November.
3 Research Questions

Cassidy suggested that the best way to look at the three research questions would be to divide the committee into working groups with each group dissecting one of the questions using data from the surveys reviewed (NSSE, Senior Exit Survey, FYE, etc.). The committee was divided into three groups and will receive an e-mail from Cassidy with additional instructions. Each committee should be prepared to report their findings at the November meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the University-Wide Assessment Committee – Student Development will be on October 20, 2011. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.