

UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT STEERING COMMITTEE
Summary Note for Meeting #13: 3:00 – 4:30 PM, May 14, 2003

Present: Robert Wertkin (Social Work and Committee Chair), Hal Bates (Academic Advisors), Gus Breymann (EUP - Lansing Campus), Toni Barnes (Upward Bound/DOSA), Mozhddeh Bruss (Family and Consumer Services/International Programs and Area Studies), Linda Delene (Academic Planning and Assessment/Provost's Office), Beth denHartigh (Disabled Student Services), Brad Dennis (University Libraries), Meg Dupuis (English/COGE), Jeorge Fierro (Academic Advisors), Damodar Golhar (Haworth College of Business), Linda Ickes (Career and Student Employment/DOSA), Joyce Kubiski (Art) for Ed Roth (Music), Linda LeBlanc (Psychology), Stephen Malcolm (Biological Sciences), Donald Meyer (Economics), Bettina Meyer (University Libraries/TOC), Hossein Mousavinezhad (Electrical and Computer Engineering/GSC), David Reinhold (Chemistry/USC), Vladimir Risukhin, (College of Aviation), and Paula Boodt for Bill Wiener (The Graduate College). **Absent:** Lonnie Hannaford (College of Education), Galen Rike (Waldo Library/AAUP), Peter Saunders (Center for Teaching and Learning), Heidi Solberg-Viar (GSAC Representative), Edmund Tsang (College of Engineering and Applied Sciences), Ric Underhile (Sindecuse Health Center/Division of Student Affairs), and Martha Warfield (Division of Student Affairs).

The meeting began with Delene welcoming new committee members and the introduction of Professor Robert Wertkin as the committee's chair for the upcoming year. Delene noted that from the inception of the committee, the intent was to have the committee chaired by a faculty member, and the election of Wertkin signaled growth in the committee's work. The summary note for the April 7th meeting was approved after discussion about whether the committee had indicated it would again review the assessment plan from Biological Sciences. After discussion, Wertkin indicated that, since many committee members were absent and there was no agreement on a mandated May agenda, the Biological Sciences assessment plan would be reviewed again in June, along with the plan submitted from the Department of Chemistry.

Wertkin presented the results of the subcommittee rankings using a blind review procedure for the assessment grant proposals. Wertkin also indicated that the review grid will need some modification before it is used next year, and he agreed to write that a brief summary of each successful proposal to share with members of the committee. Motion by Bruss, seconded by Mousavinezhad, to recommend the seven highest ranked proposals for funding to the vice provost for academic planning and assessment was unanimously approved.

Delene reported on continuing visits with various departments regarding assessment and indicated that she is working with the respective academic deans to establish deadlines for receipt of departmental plans throughout the upcoming academic year. When the receipt times have been finalized, the revised assessment review grid will be forwarded to all departments. Bruss made several suggestions about changes that would improve the proposed grid. Delene has also requested a meeting with president-elect Bailey to discuss assessment and accreditation issues facing WMU.

Wertkin then asked the committee about the role of the subcommittees proposed at the last meeting – was their role one of only consultation and advice or would each subcommittee also review departmental plans initially and then make subcommittee recommendations to UASC. Discussion ensued including the fact that such subcommittees need to be balanced using all members of UASC and that all plans should be submitted electronically. Motion by LeBlanc, seconded by Golhar, that the subcommittees serve both a consultative and review role with the respective colleges was unanimously approved. Wertkin and Delene will work to balance the committees and Delene will advise the deans about the roles of the subcommittees when discussing departmental dates. Kubiski suggested that some external assessment speakers (like the ones from Winona University) be brought to campus in the fall if funds permit.

Wertkin made a few comments about the work of the committee during the next year and indicated that he would discuss this further at the June meeting. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

<p>PLEASE NOTE THE TIME and DATE for the NEXT UASC MEETING: 3:00 – 4:30 PM, Wednesday, June 11, 2003</p>
--