

Minutes

Assurance of Learning Task Force

8:00 a.m.

October 15, 2009

307 Wimberly Hall

Present: K. Birkeland, J. Finch, B. Knowles, T. Krueger, K. Lyons, B. May

1. The minutes of the September 24, 2009 meeting were approved. M/S/P (6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain)
2. Birkeland and Knowles presented an overview of relevant information learned at the Applied Assessment Seminar on October 8-9 in Arlington VA. This included:
 - A. Basic concepts that underlie assessment: Assessment must be mission driven and generate faculty discussion. If mission is teaching, then implication is to use at least some course embedded assessment.
 - B. Approaches
 - i. Overview: We need to start and not expect to get it perfect the first time; we are not required to show value added.
 - ii. Specific ideas: We are expected to assess CBA students, not other students in CBA classes; Look for early adopters/volunteers; Presenters did not feel that ETS alone was sufficient, but should be used in conjunction with other measures; Assessment might be possible at entry to business program; Use of simulations; Data warehousing; Stakeholder participation; Documentation of discussions; Use of a project team for each class or each learning goal; Systematic schedule of assessment.
 - C. Closing the loop: Assessment is part of continuous improvement, and this needs to be documented.
 - D. Dissemination of results: Need for multiple communications about assessment; Inclusion of SAC and Advisory Board; Assessment day; Need to meet face-to-face and highlight success.
 - E. Culture: Results must be divorced from faculty evaluations; must reward participation; consider whether the balance of IAS and tenured faculty teaching core affects culture; must become something we "do".
 - F. Maintenance Visit: Interested in faculty use of information, involvement of students and advisory board.
 - G. Four summary slides provided by the presenters
3. The committee will meet at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 22. Before the meeting Knowles will email the curriculum matrix as well as questions to address our next steps.
4. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Recorded by B. Knowles