

## Summary of Achievements by the Assessment Subcommittee

For three academic years (Fall 2008 through Spring 2011), UWSP's Faculty Senate approved a temporary suspension of the submission of assessment reports from departments. During these semesters, the Assessment Subcommittee (ASC) worked in a variety of ways to revise and improve our approach to department-based assessment.

This temporary suspension of assessment reports allowed the ASC to (a) investigate current assessment efforts and identify needs, (b) revise the UWSP Handbook and update assessment reporting formats and schedule, and (c) offer seven workshops over three semesters. This temporary suspension also allowed departments to revise their approach to assessment and have a better sense of the role of assessment.

Beginning Fall 2011, departments resumed submission of assessment reports. Below, please find a brief overview of the accomplishments during this time period.

### Fall Semester 2008:

Goal: increase knowledge of assessment for members of ASC (capacity building)

Process: careful study of Maki's *Assessment for Learning*; began reviewing existing approach to assessment

Outcome: ASC committee members better informed about national trends in assessment

### Spring Semester 2009:

Goal: investigate current assessment practices by departments and identify needs; continue developing assessment knowledge (capacity building)

Process: members from ASC will visit departments to discuss current assessment practices and identify needs; teams will write up notes; ASC members will continue study assessment literature

Outcome: 15 departments visited; notes compiled and discussed by ASC

### Fall Semester 2009:

Goal: continue investigating current assessment practices by departments and identify needs; continue developing assessment knowledge (capacity building); begin planning workshops for departments

Process: members from ASC will visit departments to discuss current assessment practices and identify needs; notes will be compiled and assessment workshops will be planned

Outcome: 17 remaining departments visited; notes compiled and discussed by ASC; spring workshops planned (called the "UWSP Assessment Academy")

### Spring Semester 2010:

Goal: finalize report from department meetings; formulate possible revisions to assessment reporting process; offer Assessment Academy workshops on Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs); receive

(and provide feedback on) PLOs from each department/program; plan additional Assessment Academy workshops

Process: collaborate with the Center for Academic Excellence and Student Engagement (CAESE) to offer Assessment Academy workshops on PLOs; ASC will review PLOs and provide feedback to departments; ASC will begin drafting revisions to assessment reporting process

Outcome: ASC finalized report on the findings from meeting with each department (Appendix C1 ASC Findings from Department Meetings 2010); Assessment Academy workshops offered (February 12, March 12, April 16); ASC received a total of 33 distinct PLOs from 28 departments; feedback provided to departments spring and summer

#### **Fall Semester 2010:**

Goal: receive Curriculum Maps from each department/program by the end of the semester; finalize draft of new assessment reporting process and schedule

Process: members from ASC will collaborate with CAESE to offer Assessment Academy workshops on Curriculum Maps (October 8, December 3); members from ASC will collaborate with the Constitution and Handbook Review Subcommittee (CHRS) regarding revisions of the UWSP Handbook

Outcome: an additional 5 PLOs were received from (and feedback provided to) the 4 remaining departments; 2 Assessment Academy workshops offered; 22 departments submitted Curriculum Maps by February

#### **Spring Semester 2011:**

Goal: submit revisions to assessment section of Handbook; receive revised Assessment Plans by the end of the semester; provide feedback over the summer; update materials

Process: members from ASC will collaborate with CAESE to offer Assessment Academy workshops on Assessment Plans (March 11 (Maki), April 8); receive and provide feedback to departments; members from ASC will begin revising supporting documents and evaluation rubric for new Assessment Reports

Outcome: revisions to Handbook approved by Academic Affairs Committee (will be on the September agenda for Faculty Senate); 2 Assessment Academy workshops offered; 23 departments submitted Assessment Plans (some of which included Curriculum Maps not previously submitted); Assessment Plans reviewed over the summer and feedback provided; updated supporting materials and rubric

#### **Fall Semester 2011:**

Goal: implement the new assessment reporting format and schedule; begin receiving Assessment Reports; continue supporting departments with revisions to Assessment Plans; finalize Assessment Report supporting documents and rubric

Process: final approval of new Handbook section on assessment; ASC begins receiving and providing feedback on regular program Assessment Reports from those departments scheduled for review

Outcome: new Handbook sections approved by Faculty Senate in September; ASC received 3 Assessment Reports (3 remaining reports will be submitted in February)