

2/08/05

HLC III

Present: W. Johnson, C. Habstritt, D. Crawford, M. Christopherson, M. Grave, L. Wilson

Grave reviewed the assignment of members to the committee, and the charge to the committee, and Wilson commented on three documents distributed to committee members. Documents include: the HLC Accreditation Discussion document, a summary of group III's evidence and a letter from the HLC assessment review committee.

Members commented on the apparent significance of the progress report on assessment from HLC. The following issues were highlighted: 1) connection between assessment results and institutional decision-making 2) faculty involvement in assessment 3) assessment across academic programs and 4) direct assessment of student learning outcomes. It was decided to draft a message to Richard Nelson and members of the Assessment Committee seeking direction with how C-III should respond with regard to these specifically designated issues.

Prof. Johnson reported that the Assessment sub-committee on Critical Thinking is catching up with its testing of cohort groups. Juniors will be tested on February 17, and sophomores will be tested in April. Other data is gathered and entered, but not interpreted.

Prof. Crawford indicated that he is compiling data this semester that can be contributed to HLC-III effort. He hopes to have it completed by late spring.

The first cycle of program reviews should all be completed spring 05. Wilson will inquire about summaries.

Prof. Habstritt identified several possible sources of assessment data including: multiple years of NACTA Judging Team results, Dairy Team Judging results, Intercollegiate Crops Team, Chemical Applicators exam, Minnesota Nursery and Landscape assessment and others. Results from these will be gathered and added to the collected documents. Additionally several faculty use pre and post testing for individual courses and results of these can be collected (Sedaie, Burgess, Huglen). It may just be a matter of informing faculty through department meetings that available assessment data from multiple levels is being gathered for HLC-III.

Prof Habstritt indicated that he has collected four years of assessment data related to integrated crop management. Students must successfully pass four separate exams at intervals. Assessment results related to math proficiency on this series of exams should be discussed.

M. Christopherson reported on the Minnesota Long Term Care Providers certification process and the collaborative program with the Bachelor's in Applied Health Degree. Collaborative degrees and off-site programs whose "home" is UMC are included in the HLC assessment expectations.

Action items at the present time:

1. Grave will draft a memo to R. Nelson and Assessment Committee

2. Wilson will contact Cournia regarding program review data, and Sedaie, Burgess and Huglen for individual assessment information.
3. Habstritt will compile NACTA information.
4. All committee members are urged to review the evidence handout and identify materials they may have access to. Wilson and Grave will also review the evidence handout and “assign” some information gathering to committee members.

Writing the draft of the document was briefly discussed, but needs more clarification.

Wilson will use Outlook to set the next meeting date.