# Assessment Committee Meeting – Minutes

May 18, 2018

| 11:00 - 12:30 pm |~~Library 329~~ **Library 113**

Possible Attendees: Jim Hatton, Kristin Nagy Catz, Craig Stillwell, ~~Lee Ayers~~, Dorothy Ormes, Hart Wilson, ~~Jody Waters, Dylann Loverro~~, Christina Richardson, ~~Shanell Sanchez~~, Erin Wilder, ~~Michael Stanfill~~(has class), Rene Ordonez.

1. Academic Program Review –Kirstin.
   * Update **–** Kristin is beginning to visit programs.
   * More programs **–** We are getting more programs in. Each team should be signed up for three programs. **They are. Jim, Hart and Kristin will handle the stragglers.**
   * Reflections. **Programs seem to be treading water. Some are making what seem to be empty promises or not turning anything at all. Few changes are based on student artifacts and assessments.**
2. Oral presentation assessments plan for spring term.
   * Kristin get information? More coming. **There are more presentations happening after SOAR. Kristin will be updating the list as they come in. Please sign up for two hours or six presentations whichever comes first.**
   * Same ground rules
3. Senior writing results. Maybe Jim and Rene could talk. We will schedule. And we have. We agreed that we can express any meaningful error ranges but we could work on goals as percentages in each category or combination of categories. **Other ideas from our discussion.**
   * **We will be submitting papers to the MSC again this year. We will assess them and compare to the MSC grades as a control. We think our standards or methods may be yielding too low of scores.**
   * **It makes sense at this point to simplify the rubric. We also might have a discussion on how to use the rubric ala MSC methods. Something to do next fall.**
   * **We should be sharing this with the students.**
4. Spring workshop scheduling? Plan the agenda.
   * Will be held June 1 12-4.
   * Is in the white board room
   * Will cover Senior Writing, Program Reviews, Some words about Oral Presentations, and possibly a presentation on sharing new outcomes.
   * Jim and Kristin have plans? Review last year’s slide show.
   * Usem will have something to say.
   * **Discussion**
     1. **Our contacts with honors program has yielded excellent student committee members. Christina will serve again next year and Dylann wants to be on the committee in the following year.**
     2. **The slide show has a bit of the sameo-sameo feel. I will again be a summary of the data, but …**
     3. **Part of the senior writing presentation will include the attendees working at their tables on how their programs encourage (and measure) creativity, and visual thinking.**
     4. **We need to again emphasize what it matters**
5. This is our last meeting of the year – Thanks for the good time. **Amen!**
6. Anything else?

**Appended to these minutes (so I don’t forget) are notes from the spring workshop on**

**Brainstorming Capstone Improvements**

* **Students need experience with literature research appropriate to their majors.**
* **Group capstones were effective since the better students raised the level of the papers – Is this a way for students to learn about standards (set by their peers)?**
* **Students need to be evaluated on the senior rubric earlier in their academic careers.**
* **Students need to iterate drafts.**
* **The writing skills a student gets need to be meaningful for their major. (more directly).**
* **Connecting writing and critical thinking throughout the curriculum (scaffolding) is effective.**
* **Senior writing for different programs needs to reflect the intentions of the major – may not be a formal research paper.**
* **More ELU’s lead (usually) to better capstone papers.**
* **Successful programs have agreement about standards from all the faculty.**
* **Still an problem: How to measure the quality of other forms of thinking much less creativity?**
* **It helps if the student chooses a capstone topic earlier. Maybe presenting a formal proposal.**
* **We need to change our definition of senior writing.**