

Ad Hoc Committee on Assessment

April 20, 2007

9:00am, Rm. 1103F

MINUTES

Members present: Maggie LaMontagne, Judi Repman, Kent Rittschof, Lisa Schulz, Chris Thompson, Kymberly Harris, Delores Liston; *Ex-Officio:* Donna Colson, Jennie Rakestraw

1. Minutes from prior meeting.

Minutes from March 2 were reviewed and accepted

2. Electronic Assessment Choices and Decisions

Dr. Rittschof provided an overview description of the possible choices and the need for decisions regarding COE use of an electronic database for assessment. The review and testing process across the University of the Taskstream system was described. Pros and cons of the TK20 and the Taskstream system were displayed and discussed. Input on the perspective of the assessment committee regarding these issues was encouraged.

Ms. Thompson stated that moving away from TK20 would not be a problem for the Student Success Center. She described how the system was unreliable and not functioning as desired to meet their needs. Chris would like to explore some alternatives. Crucial functions include GPA computation, Transition points data.

Action: Ms. Thompson will provide a list of crucial functions that SSC needs in a system.

Ms. Colson mentioned that field experience tracking is also a crucial function needed in a system.

Action: Ms. Parsons would be asked to provide a list of those field experience functions needed in a system.

At 9:35 a WebX demo of the Taskstream program was provided by Jennifer Lombardo of Taskstream. Student submission, Faculty Evaluation, and Reporting was covered in 30 minutes. Questions were answered satisfactorily.

Following the demo, Dr Repman provided a summary of her initial experience with Taskstream. She found that the system works well so far, but that some re-learning is needed for the many steps one must take to set up and evaluate in a course. She expressed that it appears better than Tk20.

Dr. Liston, Dr. Schulz, and others discussed concerns about the confidentiality issue associated with the surveillance capabilities of Taskstream. Dr. Liston asked whether faculty could control a toggle access to their course data.

Action: Dr. Rittschof agreed to ask Taskstream about this question and generally how we can limit access to faculty data during a course in support of confidentiality.

Recommendations: The following are the recommendations of the committee at this point:

1. The COE should not continue using the Tk20 system in Fall 2007.
2. If necessary, a stopgap solution should be used instead of TK20.
3. If the results of current testing remain positive, the committee supports the use of the Taskstream system to replace the TK20 system, starting in Fall 2007.
4. Examination of which tools (i.e. COE Access database upgrade, Banner, etc) would be needed in addition to the Taskstream system should continue.
5. Confidentiality issues with our electronic assessment tools should continue to be addressed and resolved.

3. April 26th and 27th Guest Experts on Assessment

Drs. Judy Wilkerson and Steve Lang

The Schedule of Meetings was shared and discussed.

Concern about a “mandate” to participate in the workshop was expressed. This was discussed previously at the FEC relative to faculty governance. Dr. Rakestraw indicated that there is not mandate to participate, but rather encouragement to participate in light of NCATE weaknesses.

Action: Dr. Rakestraw would clarify this misconception via email to all COE faculty.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55am.