Assessment Leadership Team

8-21-2020

Via Zoom

Greg Bierly, Paula Jarrard, Kelley Woods-Johnson, Brian Stone, Laura Froelicher, Ellen Malito, Shelley Arvin, Nathan Myers, Edie Wittenmyer

Minutes-Bierly moved, Stone seconded.

6 approve, 1 abstention

Chair’s Report-Stone-Nice to see everyone. Excited about the meeting. Class restores some normalcy, but it is a strange time. Feel bad for new students. Learned lessons from the last time. A number of students are in quarantine already. Shelley will be returning. She missed a good semester. ☺ English and Comp were lucky because they gather portfolios in the fall and assessed in the spring. Contacted faculty in spring about not collecting portfolios. People feel their teaching is being evaluated. Will collect portfolios next spring. Still need to meet about assessment. What would artifacts from spring tell us? Will work around it.

Going ahead with HLC. What will this semester look like? How will it affect what we expect of programs? Do we put an asterisk? Asks about opinions.

Knocked out language revisions.

Myers-On-line perspective

Bierly-Honors Thesis-Previously used one semester. Robust sample of documents to review in one semester. For this past academic year we could use fall theses. Oral presentations will be affected. Put an asterisk in spring. Now using video submission. Conveying research will be changed.

Jarard-HHS-Sim Center work. Assessment based on application of practical experience. Can’t provide those opportunities. A lot of data is based on clinical simulations. Will be difficult until we can get back on track.

Ellen-DSA-Students greatly impacted. Certain academic work is impacted based on comments. Food insecurity, bad family situations, nowhere to go. See students that have problems. Canceled CASS assessment. Staff pulled in many directions. Difficult to produce quality work. Reviewers are supposed to provide recommendations, but it is not a good time with budget cuts coming.

Conducted COVID survey. Completed executive summary. One question: Who are you getting information from/relying upon? Top response was faculty. Kudos to those that students want to talk to.

Contact tracing and all things COVID are going through SA.

Surprised about faculty as opposed to administrators?

Ellen will pull survey information. Some surprising results. Did a somewhat similar survey in the fall. Some things improved from fall to spring. For some, mental health and food insecurity improved. May have more assistance with family and in home communities.

Arvin-On sabbatical, so others in library had to take ownership. Analyzing student questions. Questions are transcripted. Collecting student work and analyzing sources. If assessment isn’t perfect people can get stuck. Encourages people to push ahead and allow mistakes. Library is just trying to adjust and take precautions. Announcement about mask requirement made people feel better.

Stone-A little less anxiety among instructors. Some students are experiencing campus for first time. Concerns about policing masks. Course caps are being raised from 20-25 to 30. Done administratively. Challenge to focus on writing. This fall will be a throw away in terms of assessment. Need to put strategies in place. Conference/publications coming out of this.

Students disappeared and then returned in the last week to ask about finishing. Some students have anxiety, some saw it as a freebie.

Coordinator’s Report-Kelley

Status Reports-LMS process. No word yet. Early July all the feedback was provided to the Provost. The Provost is supposed to take information to the budget committee. Two products are tied, one trailing well behind. Price points are varied. None of the products failed to meet the threshold of what is needed. Some had really appealing functions. Whichever chosen, they will do the job. Assumes that decision will soon or have already been made. Already facing a tight timeline. Planning a two year transition, now looking at a one year transition. Full implementation is Fall 2022. Complicated to do the set up, architecture and migration with limited staff. All of the products will be more expensive as upgrades.

Comprehensive Learner Record-Meetings cancelled. Not a huge priority at the moment. Deadline in October. We have not made progress over the summer. Group will likely convene in September. Talk about structure. First step was the Provost naming a steering committee. Need to get that rolling again. Ellen and Kelley are currently engaged and more will come following Provost guidance. More info coming.

Foundational Studies assessment went well. Have identified areas of improvement. Categories for assessment: ESR and Social/Behavior Studies. Already been a review and updating of rubric so we can assess artifacts in the early spring. Lucky we got in the reviews in Feb. Faculty have been invited to workshops to identify assignments for assessment. Hopefully work out more bugs and build on last year. More growth to come.

Co-curricular-Everyone gave it a try. Quality will need to improve. Range from solid work to needs a lot of improvement. Ellen and Kelley looking at recommendations for next time. Goal to increase participation. Increase focus on learning. Assessed use and satisfaction instead. Adding new areas of co-curricular. Potential to add academic advising, assessing advising outcomes. How can we better understand the quality of academic advising?

HLC is in less than four weeks. Argument submitted in mid-July. It is on the website: HLC 2020. Team will be visiting virtually except for one. One needs to verify the university exists. Full schedule not posted yet. Powers invitation about assessment meeting with reviewers. Talk about what we are doing and plans for the future. Open session meetings are on the agenda. Links will be posted on the ISU web site. Not sure about format. Want to hear from the community. Program evaluation students can get extra credit. Feel good about the argument. Will get critical feedback to document improvement. Always room for improvement, such as longevity of progress. Midterm evaluation of new things. First school to be evaluated under the new criteria. One of the first schools to be evaluated after returning. Information going out about open sessions.

Working on last year’s annual reports. Co-curricular reports are still coming in, College of Technology working on finishing reports. Close out 19-20 information.

New Business

Trying to figure out our priorities. Did begin EIA assessment process. Will have feedback from HLC. Strategic planning for assessment at ISU over the next five years. Will have further discussions. Be flexible about what assessment looks like and the needs and concerns of faculty. Reporting will still happen. Some information may be missing, but we just need to document that. Some new chairs that may need support. Things will change unless all data has been collected. Would like to get feedback on cycle and the SOAS form. Faculty have indicated that the form limits ability to capture information about assessment the cycle is problematic. Want to create a mechanism allowing faculty to capture what they are doing well. Assessment will not be the biggest priority moving forward. Will open discussion to the wider group.

Stone-IUPUI Assessment Conference-option to talk to someone about EIA mentoring. Brian would like to join any discussion along those lines. Free this year.

Kelley-Could mentor attend leadership team meeting to share information about their experience.

Conference-October 25th-28th-Really rich information. From early phases to advanced statistics. Speaker on niche areas (clinical assessment, portfolio assessment, etc.) Select meaningful sessions. Kelly having students attending.

SOAS Reports-Evaluation-Current GA stuck in Ghana due to lack of visa. Small working group or committee to evaluate reports. Bring in multiple perspectives. Will explore in the future.

Questions?

Ellen-continuing to distribute masks. Sycamore Safe stations. Still have 5,000 students that haven’t picked up masks. Will be distributed throughout the next week in the Campus Life office or the office across from Starbucks. After that, information desk at HMSU. Students get two. A few odd things came up. Students may think they have to pay for a mask. Some complaints about mask fit. Produce a video about how to properly wear masks. All residential students received them at move-in. All athletes have received them. Send off-campus students to SA.

Masks are also available in the Sycamore Pantry next week.

Will send out an email regarding next ALT meeting and whether it is necessary.

Adjourned at 10:02 AM.