

## Institutional Assessment Committee

Wednesday, September 21, 2011

### Minutes

Present: Meghan Dwyer, Kara Delorey, Linda Dillon, Heather Heerman, Brian Oles, Anne Sant, Deb Salvucci, Craig Almeida, Jean R. Hamler and Laura Uerling. Not Present: Fr. Hugh Cleary, C.S.C., Amy Tiberio, Lucia Darling, Jessica Greene, Lisa O'Donnell.

The meeting began with the introduction of new 2011-12 IAC members.

The first agenda item focused on updates about the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC)-Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) Summer Meeting and administration of the CLA to selected first-year students. Linda Dillon, Todd Gernes and Laura Uerling attended the CIC-CLA summer meeting, which served as the impetus for oversampling 'at-risk' first-year students in the Academic Community Experience (ACE) program. Over 100 invitations were sent to first-year students in the bottom 10% of the Class of 2015. Of that number, 38 first-year students participated in the three-week program, from August 7 through 26. The CLA was administered to 36 (or 94.7%) ACE participants on August 25. ACE invitees (31) and the regular CLA sample (83) took the CLA during Fall Orientation on August 30. A total of 80% of all selected first-year students (ACE participants, ACE invitees and the regular sample) have completed the CLA to date. Two follow up CLA sessions will be held next week for the 45 first-year students who did not take the CLA. Upon completion of the CLA administration, the Registrar Template will be completed (identifying the sample and oversample) and sent to our CLA representative. CLA has notified the College that they will only produce a report for the regular sample, but we will be able to analyze the oversample using the raw data file.

The second agenda item, the BASICS program, was tabled until our October meeting. Craig Almeida updated the committee that this intervention program is a national program and that a cross-divisional Alcohol and Other Drugs committee will be formed this semester to craft key performance indicators to accomplish the Alcohol Task Force recommendations.

The final agenda item provided an opportunity for the IAC to discuss the outcome of the working lunch session with Dr. Barbara Walvoord held in August. Dr. Walvoord suggested a model of Information, Integration and Action. Her model was broken into four steps: a) Disseminate and flag, b) Annual summary (general survey results), c) Use the data in conversations with faculty, SPC and other leaders on campus, as well as in employee orientations, d) Periodic retreat. She encouraged us to look at the 'big picture' survey which she noted as cumulative / comparative, trends / changes, and the integration of work (systemic / sustainable). She stated that we need to ask the question "what do you think this says to us?" If we do this, NEASC would say we are building a "culture of evidence." She suggested two tasks for the IAC: 1) Monitor and 2) strengthen the systems. As a result of this recapitulation, the IAC will host a retreat on November 16, from 9-12 p.m. Additional information and assessment materials will be sent to IAC members two weeks prior to the retreat.

The next IAC meeting is Wednesday, October 19, 2011, at 9 a.m., in Merkert-Tracy Hall, Room 249. The Great Colleges To Work For (Employee survey) will be discussed.