**Academic Affairs Continuous Improvement Committee Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015**

**9:00-10:30 am**

**Broome Library 1670**

**Attendees:**

Jeanne Grier, Debi Hoffmann, Simone Aloisio, Geoff Buhl, Luke Matjas, Tracylee Clarke, Stephen Clark, Virgil Adams, Jim Meriwether, Sue Saunders, Bob Bleicher, Brad Monsma, Julia Balen, Catherine Burriss, Marie Francois, Dennis Downey, Amy Wallace

**Agenda:**

**I. Updates**

1. **WASC**

Amy thanked everyone for their help during the WASC visit. Overall the visit seemed successful. The Provost will speak about the next steps in the WASC process at Senate today. The draft of the WASC Team report will be sent to the President in about 3 weeks. CI will have the opportunity to correct any factual errors. The WASC Team’s final report will then be sent to the WASC Commission along with the confidential accreditation and duration recommendation. The WASC Commission will review all materials and make their determination on June 18.

1. **Program Review**

Once the NRS Reaccreditation process is complete, the program will create a MOU/Action Plan. The Information Technology Action Plan will be completed by July 1, 2015. GE Self-study will be completed by July 1, 2015, along with the Art, Communication, Early Child Studies, English, Liberal Studies, Math self-studies. Spanish and Chemistry action plan updates are due by the end of the semester.

**II. Input on Performing Arts and Library Program Reviews**

Performing Arts: Found external reviewers comments helpful and will start work on their action plan. Action plan will be due by July 1, 2015.

Library: Debi went over the external reviewers’ report. Some of the reviewer suggestions went against the library’s current practice and university’s student-centered and integrative approaches. Library asked for guidance from Continuous Improvement colleagues. Committee suggested that if the Library moved towards more session based assessment, as recommended by the external reviewers, that librarians work with faculty upfront to insure that assessment uses authentic methods and data gathered helps address both information literacy and course outcomes. Committee discussed pros and cons of the Library moving toward tiered reference and/or a subject specialist model. Committee members were concerned that the report did not directly suggest that more librarians were needed, and thought this should be included in the Library action plan. Committee members did not think librarians should be replaced by staff or students at the reference desk, but thought that having student interns that assist the librarians might be a good learning opportunity for students similar to the unique collections internships that have been successful.

**III. Assessment Training Funds**

Amy reminded the group that she had assessment funds available. Please let her know if there a conference or training that might help you or your colleagues build capacity in assessment or program review. Some upcoming opportunities are:

**AAC&U's Institute on General Education and Assessment**June 2–June 6, 2015 in OK.

AAC&U Institute on High Impact Practices and Student Success

June 9-12, 2015 in Madison, WI

AAC&U Institute on Integrative Learning and the Departments

July 14 -18, 2015 in Newark, DE

AAC&U Global Learning in College

October 8-19 in Fort Lauderdale, FL

AAC&U Crossing Boundaries – Transforming STEM Education

November 12-14, 2015 in Seattle Washington

AAC&U General Education and Assessment

February 18-20, 2016 in New Orleans, LA

AAC&U Diversity, Learning, and Student Success

March 17-19, 2016 in Philadelphia, PA

**IV. Discussion: What can I do to help improve this process?**

Getting "numbers" to crunch and getting accurate data was a problem for this round of reviews. Those that are in the first year of program review have seen an improvement. IRPE will be working with Amy to create a data packet for each program that will be presented at the orientation when programs start program review.