SACS Working Group Meeting

Present: Mary Lynn Manns, Jane Fernandes, Bruce Larson, Amy Lanou, Jessica Dunsmore and Annis Lytle

The Student Experience Model Inquiry ARC
QEP Implementation - July 7, 2011

Bruce welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Update from Bruce on the compliance standards. The Draft Compliance Report was submitted on June 30th for Senior Staff review. Meeting scheduled for next Tuesday about the Faculty Record with Ed Katz. Jane will submit feedback from the Senior Staff to Louis. Additional Working Group meeting set for August 1 from 3 – 5 pm. On July 28th the QEP Draft will be submitted to the SACS Working Group for review.

Update from Mary Lynn and Amy on the QEP. Mary Lynn and Amy updated the group on the student experience model. Connect was changed to Communicate. The model was updated to change the language. Two items to note are: (1) the inclusion of “outside the discipline,” and “dialog” under Communicate, and (2) the inclusion of engagement throughout the model.

Mary Lynn and Amy updated the group on the implementation plan and went over the handout dated July 7, 2011. Updates were made in light of comments and feedback from Patty Payette, who provided a campus workshop on critical thinking and consulted on the QEP on Tuesday, June 28th. Eighteen people attended the workshop, including five staff members. Mary Lynn reported that more faculty expressed an interest but could not attend. Amy reported that the implementation plan now includes a “pilot” year, as Patty suggested.

Bruce shared some QEP-related comments drawn from his two learning circles. The Pedagogy of the Oppressed book has a nice discussion in chapter 3 of the importance of action and reflection. The learning circle based upon Cultivating the Spirit stresses the importance of reflection with respect to a number of variety desirable student outcomes. He will make sure that Susan Reiser gets a copy of Pedagogy.

Mary Lynn stated that she had a meeting with the Student Affairs staff in the spring 2011 semester and she is keeping various individuals updated and included.

Jessica updated the group on the assessment work and went over the handout, “Learning Outcomes – June 30, 2011.” She stated that we have a rubric that supports the outcomes. She also updated the group on the operational outcomes and stated that they are investigating what test to include.
Mary Lynn will work on the timeline for submitting a QEP draft to Senior Staff, with sometime before fall break as a possibility. Others to be consulted include: CSAC, SGA, Board of Trustees, and Faculty Senate.

Jane reminded the group that the final Faculty Senate meeting of spring 2011 included a document necessitating the selection of additional members for the Institutional Effectiveness Committee. Bruce, Jane, and Jessica should be involved as appropriate.

Mary Lynn will work with Debbie Griffith on marketing for the QEP in the fall. In the next few weeks she will develop and send a one or two page document updating the campus on the QEP. There will be an opportunity for comments.

Dr. Cardell will be here on campus August 16th and 17th and will speak with, among others, members of the QEP Leadership Team; classes begin on August 22nd. Jane indicated that it would be appropriate for us to share a couple of our compliance responses with Dr. Cardell for input. It may also be appropriate for Dr. Cardell to meet with the Chairs and Program Directors to provide them with a broader perspective on reaffirmation, especially the role of institutional effectiveness.

Mary Lynn reminded us that we have to submit three names for the QEP Lead Evaluator at least three months before we submit the QEP plan. She has already identified two people but more are needed. Potential evaluators should be very knowledgeable about critical thinking; it is also preferable, but not necessary, for the person to have previous experience as a QEP evaluator. Please send suggestions to Mary Lynn as soon as possible so she might begin the process.

The next SACS Working Group Meeting is scheduled for July 22 from 10:00 to 11:30 am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.