8-19-11

SACS Working Group Meeting

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

Bruce welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Comments on Dr. Cardell and Dr. Smith’s visit to campus.

Bruce updated the group on Dr. Cardell and Dr. Smith’s visit to campus and stated that we had a great visit with them and that they enjoyed themselves. Bruce stated that we are in good shape.

Jessica, Lisa and Jane shared information on our off-site committee members.

Bruce stated that we have done great work and we will continue doing great work. The compliance review went well; standard 2.5 is in great shape. Dr. Cardell and Dr. Smith were thrilled with 2.5 and had only one concern with it and that was maybe we should consider exporting some of the information from standard 2.5 to standard 3.3.1.1.

Standard 2.11.2 was also well received. It was suggested, among other things, that the new NC Center for Health and Wellness provided a good opportunity to connect physical resources to mission. John Pierce and Clayton Fogg, who attended the report of Drs. Cardell and Smith, will work, along with others, to incorporate the suggestions made.

Jane stated that the meeting of Drs. Cardell and Smith with Senior Staff went well with Dr. Cardell going over the procedure for the off-site and on-site visits. She spoke of some of the actions and a few standards there were problematic, as well as board policy; she also talked about the evaluation of senior staff. Lisa stated that we need to make sure that people on campus are informed about things before our on-site team comes to campus and that we need John Pierce to see the information that we submit. Jane stressed that John Pierce must okay the finance submissions.

Comments on the QEP.

Dr. Cardell and Dr. Smith had an opportunity to comment on the QEP—the feedback was positive and encouraging. Mary Lynn noted that there was an honest effort to include faculty and staff throughout the QEP development process; the document draft will soon become available to the campus.

Lisa shared Dr. Cardell’s concern about the inclusion of staff and extra-curricular activities in the QEP. This is something that needs to be addressed as the QEP is developed further. The group decided that the focus in the written plan should be placed on course-based activities. The concept of faculty and staff working together as educators should also be encouraged.
Amy will make the minor edits to the document to reflect this recommendation. She will also add an estimate of the total number of students who will be involved.

The group also discussed monetary compensation. Lisa stated that all the assessment work using the rubric outlined in the QEP will be part of the class coursework. Even though Jane indicated she is in favor of recognizing faculty who participate in QEP-related classes with monetary compensation, Lisa pointed out that faculty should be paid for faculty development work and not for using the rubric in their class—this is because many other faculty use assessment rubrics but do not get paid for doing this. Jessica suggested it may be best to pay faculty for the assessment work they will do over the summer. The group agreed-- Mary Lynn will add this to the budget and Amy will add it to the implementation plan.

Lisa asked about the QEP assessment team on the organizational chart and offered some suggestions—Amy will make the edits in the org structure document.

Mary Lynn stated that Rob Berls talked with her about doing a play to help market the Inquiry ARC student experience in the QEP. Mary Lynn shared the latest version of the QEP logo to the group, which resulted in discussion. Mary Lynn will work with communication and marketing to revise the logo.

The timing of the release of the QEP draft to the campus was discussed. The group decided that this should be around the third week of the semester.

The next SACS Working Group Meeting is scheduled for September 2nd from 10:00 to 11:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.