

Below is what I noted down at the open forums. I may have missed some points (when I was listening to James describing his talks to his cat on UWSP assessment and the philosophy of higher education.....), which I totally can relate to! 😊 So add/change as you please.

Nisha

Comments/questions from Open Forums – Oct. 19th & Oct. 20th 2011

#3: Catalog Year Requirements:

- Transfer Credits: Catalog year requirements at the time of entry should be clarified more (as it is, it can be confusing)

#4: GEP Assessment Plan

- The fact that the course portfolios are essentially course-based, and not instructor-based (and that there will be no influence on tenure, retention, and promotion) should be clarified more. Assessment is solely for course-level assessment and improvements and not for evaluating/reviewing instructor performance or personnel decisions. Also, it should be clear that course portfolios will need to be confidential (firewall)– without instructor or students names or semester information (for above purpose).
- Will course portfolios lead to too much uniformity? (*This was explained that the LOs of the GEP category can be met with very different courses, but we may need to explain that in the proposal too*)
- What would happen if several courses address the same LO/only one LO of the relevant GEP category?
- How public will the course portfolios be?
- Can there be templates for assessing course portfolios (specifically, on the CLOs) so that the process will be easier?
- FLCs – a recommendation is to do demos in departments to inspire faculty to join as well as to understand assessment better
- Add more to p. 17 on FLCs, admin positions, etc. (for more clarifications)

#5: Administrative Recommendations

- Can the Director of GE and Assessment Coordinator be one single position, operating directly under the AVC? Can they be co-chairs? Should they be elected rather than appointed (similar to the GEC Chair)?
- Concern that the Assessment Coordinator seems to have a ‘central role’ in monitoring assessment of course portfolios (*this was clarified in the discussion that followed, but I’m not sure if the person who raised this concern was convinced.....*)
- Can the Assessment Coordinator be a half-time position (50% AC & 50% faculty)?
- Director of GE and AC should be ex-officio members of the GEC.

#7: Advising Recommendations:

- What GDRs are 'grandfathered' to GEP should be made public as soon as they are available so that advisors can use that information to advise students (this is to be directed to GEC).
- FLCs and workshops will be immensely helpful.
- Making an information packet/manual (smaller than the online catalog) on GEP would be helpful. It can contain 'grandfathered' GDR courses, specific GEP courses (when they are available), and brief explanations of 'why these courses are important/why these GEP categories are important.' Both advisors and students find it very useful and helpful.