Learning Assessment Committee
Friday, April 30, 2010
1:00-2:30pm, T-750

Members Present: Vina Cera, Cheli Fossum, Mildred Lewis, Evelyn Lord, Ann McMurdo, Marco Menendez, David Mitchell, Karolyn van Putten, Kathy Williamson

1. Meeting Schedule for rest of Spring/10 semester
May 7 – 12noon – 3pm, F170, TaskStream Training/Work Session
May 13 – Last Assessment Hour of the semester – T450, from 12 – 1pm – with lunch
May 21 -
Some wrap-up work sessions will be held the first week in June (possibly 1 st and 2nd) after Spring semester is over – waiting to hear when college retreat will take place

2. The Chair reported on assessment in the college to date – all departments who'd assessed at least 1 SLO. More than ½ of departments haven't done any assessment yet. Our progress is much too slow to meet the 2012 deadline. We discussed instituting a 3-year planning form. We thought that in the future, it should be standard practice to include Curriculum and Assessment Review in Program Reviews. Some group should evaluate the format and process of Program Reviews so we'd have a more comprehensive tool for gathering information. We discussed who would populate this group and what its
3. charge would be – how to integrate it into the planning process and institutional review. Members generally agreed to make this recommendation to the President.

There are still some funds left for stipends to faculty and staff. We hope the deans, VP and President will help encourage participation. Other carrots could be fun oriented, like a Division Contest, with a Pizza party as the prize.
We hope to take over a Flex Day mid semester, that will focus on this one task – perhaps a 1/2-day with lunch included. We need the administration to push this and help with manipulation of scheduling. We mentioned targeting lagging departments again.
It appears that the consequences of non compliance aren't immediate enough to most faculty.
We talked about including assessment in the yearly Unit Plans. This led to more discussion on redesigning the template – perhaps more specific questions and less narrative. Our current Program Review template was not generated by shared governance – it was designed by administration.

3. We changed the date of the last Assessment Hour because of a conflict with a meet-the-presidential-candidates event. We rescheduled for Thurs., May 13.
Since we felt the last Hour wasn't interactive enough, we discussed ways to make it more inclusive. The co-chair ordered a CD on ways to implement Learner-Centered teaching, in the hope that if we could show the 20-min. CD, it could inspire more active discussion. Since we had only one hour, we decided to pick only one concept at a time for the Hour's theme. We plan to meet on Friday, May 7, to check out the CD. The company that distributes the CD has several other possibly helpful strategies, and our librarian suggested we may be able to order some through the Library acquisitions.