

IEC Minutes  
February 7, 2013

Attending: Lisa Cooper, David Jenkins, Cody King, Gayle Alston, Bryan Davis, Dongwen Qi, Feng Xu, Lauren DiPaula, Ru Story Huffman

The meeting was called to order by Cody King. The minutes were approved, with correction.

Lisa Cooper met with the Administrative Council and gave the Assessment Update she delivered at the December 2012 IEC Assessment Day.

Subcommittee Reports:

Strategic Planning: IEC needs to assess the enrichment of campus intellectual life, with musical and artistic enrichment and convocation speakers as possible opportunity for gathering data. Assessment of conferences that are attended by faculty was also identified as a possibility. A Teaching Circle to find method to identify intellectual events and assessment was suggested.

Assessment: Bryan Davis is conducting individual consultations with Administrative Support Units on assessment plans and Annual Reports. He has added and revised some directions for the FY14 Annual Reports, including a link to the Strategic Plan in the Annual Report directions. The IEC members discussed objectives and their placement in the Annual Report template, as well as finding a way to improve the Annual Report template to show engaging and enriching activities. Bryan Davis will make changes to the Annual Report template and share with IEC members.

In April, the Academic and Student Support Units will conduct a review and Joseph Nichols is seeking volunteers to assist in the review.

General Education and Critical Thinking: The agenda outlined the comments, suggestions, and recommendations made by the subcommittee. (See attached Agenda). After additional discussion by the IEC members, it was decided to re-address the comments and suggestions at the March meeting of the IEC.

The next meeting will be March 7, 2013, at 3:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Ru Story Huffman

**Institutional Effectiveness Committee**  
**Agenda**  
**February 7, 2013 3:30 p.m. President's Conference Room**

- Approval of Minutes December 13, 2012
- Formalizing Recommendations from Assessment Day
  - Strategic Planning Subcommittee Recommendation
    - IEC needs to figure out how to assess/measure the Enrichment of Campus Intellectual Life
    - What concrete procedure can we use to implement this recommendation?
  - Assessment Subcommittee Recommendations
    - Individual Consultations with Administrative Support Units on their assessment plans and annual reporting mechanisms
    - Training Sessions during March
    - Annual Report Template
      - Clarify directions and move to appendix of the template
      - Revise table for Section 2
  - General Education and Critical Thinking—The following comments, suggestions, and recommendations made during a group discussion:
    - It should not be English's responsibility for critical thinking.
    - The current assignment (used for assessment) does not do a good job of measuring critical thinking skills.
    - A portfolio should be used for assessment.
    - Assessment of critical thinking skills should not be in freshmen classes.
    - Critical thinking assessment should take place in English 1101 and then again during one's senior year.
    - Assessment of student learning outcomes as at GSW should be used as a reference tool.
    - Students need incentive for doing well on assessments and standardized tests.
    - We should find out who is using what tests and implement a test as a graduation requirement. We should require certain percentage on a national standardized test to graduate.
    - Students that don't pass this national standardized test but pass the classes flag us as a not good institution.
    - Soon we are going to be required to move to a national standardized assessment.
    - Grades do not indicate critical thinking skills.
    - Grades during the freshmen/sophomore years are the best predictors of grades for junior/senior years.
    - Retention is going down because our resources are going down.
    - Can any or all of these comments, suggestions, or recommendations be formulated as a set of concrete proposals/recommendations?