

PEAC Assessment Committee Meeting  
May 3, 2007

Members Present: Gayle Andrews, Kathleen deMarrais, Sandi Glass, Mary Ann Fitzgerald, Linda Gilbert, Jamie Lewis, Pam Paisley, Brent Allison

Pam Paisley called the meeting to order at 3:04. Each person discussed what they did and heard at their respective focus group meetings. Pam Paisley said that the general feedback was positive, and the challenge was for them to not move to the counseling version right away. Gayle Andrews received generally positive feedback. However, the respondents didn't think the Framework acknowledged what students brought to the classroom. Linda Gilbert said that focus groups might point out that something is missing, but that they weren't looking hard enough. Linda Gilbert and Sally did an online session via BRIDGE. Generally they got a positive response. The respondents embraced the idea that all educators should be on the same page. Mary Ann Fitzgerald had six participants. Overall they were very positive and appreciative of the work to get SLM away from a marginalized status. The things they highlighted were a lack of collaboration, and they felt that it needs to be added. The group also said that there is a continual fight to be recognized as teachers – it's not perceived that that's what they are. Jamie Lewis did Area F by email with Clees, Napier, and Knapp.

Kathleen deMarrais talked to the BOR deans about this, but could not do a full focus group. Their reception was overwhelmingly positive. They raised the question she heard from Gayle Andrews – why is this “accomplished”? There as a request to change it and Kathleen deMarrais could follow up with them and get some feedback on that. She wondered if there's a way she can document the categories of people on the summary sheet and have Sandi Glass post this under “focus groups”, and if we could show that it's P-12 teachers that it would be very helpful. Gayle Andrews will send Sandi Glass a copy of this. Kathleen deMarrais suggested an editing committee, and Pam Paisley said that there should be some editing of the document after this meeting. Linda Gilbert will “clean up” the relevant documents before sending them to Sandi Glass for positing to the focus site.

Linda Gilbert asked about the additional focus groups, and she wondered if we want to talk to them before or after the editing. Pam Paisley said that she would like to work with practicing counselors and supervisors. Kathleen deMarrais said that Sally Zepeda was going to meet with someone to go over formatting. Pam Paisley said we need Speech-Language's involvement as well.

NCATE Visit

Kathleen deMarrais discussed the upcoming focus visit on Standard 2. In the write-up of the conceptual framework we included 42 indicators. The NCATE team felt that if the indicators weren't in the assessment instruments then they were consistent with the conceptual framework. So Kathleen deMarrais recommended that this portion of the Institutional Report be rewritten to provide examples. Pam Paisley asked if we can make changes in what we submitted, and Kathleen deMarrais said we can. Kathleen deMarrais added that the last NCATE team saw GSTEP as separate from the work of the college because it was grant funded.

Sandi Glass said that if it ends up as S/U then it would be better for the accreditors to see this so that we can pull out what we've got. Pam Paisley asked if there could be an "exceeds expectations" category. Sandi Glass asked if it's better to have three or two. Kathleen deMarrais said that we could decide to do S/U temporarily.

Kathleen deMarrais said that we've looked at the aspirational and peer institutions, and some of them are in TEAC, and they're a very small inspiration. She might not recommend TEAC, instead opting for state accreditation like Illinois. Kathleen deMarrais also suggested that we might just go with national recognition by the program. However, SPAs will not recognize programs unless NCATE accredits the units, Mary Ann Fitzgerald said. Sandi Glass said there's no way to do this before November. Pam Paisley asked that if we shot for November, could we get dates for this now? Kathleen deMarrais said it may just be about better documenting ways programs involve P-12 faculty/other school personnel in their work and presenting in table format. Kathleen deMarrais said we do have the superintendents group, and we were in conversation with them for a day and a half, and now we could consider a formal Educators Advisory Council.... not just for accreditation purposes but to work more closely at the college level.

Kathleen deMarrais said that, on the issue of November, we're going to have to get faculty on-board in how to respond to NCATE. Pam Paisley said that's why we'll need a council with oversight over the assessment data. Pam Paisley wondered if, to pull this off in November, this would require a meeting or two over the summer.

Pam Paisley thought it would be possible to have a college S/U for the field experience. Sandi Glass said that S/U can be applied to admission, and then we would describe what we thought that they can achieve over these six domains. There will be an exploration of which dates we can meet over the summer. She will create a planning timeline. Kathleen deMarrais added that we will pilot the graduate and employer surveys for everybody we have completers for, and we will communicate with the superintendents and the principals to get a better return rate than last time. The Board of Regents agreed that they will have this up and running from their site to have this operational by spring 2008. They will send it to either people finishing their first year or those who supervise them, and they will be broken down by cip code and by college. The meeting was adjourned at 4:38.