

Undergraduate Outcomes Assessment Committee

Meeting #1

Thursday, November 3rd, 2011, 2-3 p.m. Chairman Room-Campus Center

Present: Schachterle, Demetry, Dominko, Heinricher, Hansen, Egan (SGA), Liang

Chair (ex-officio) L. Schachterle called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

1. Election of chair and secretary (Schachterle)

Chair: Hansen nominated Lance Schachterle for the Committee's chair, seconded by Heinricher. No other nominations were made. The motion was approved unanimously.

Secretary: No nominations were made. Tanja Dominko volunteered for the position.

2. Review of our charge and last year's Annual Report. (Schachterle)

The Chair Schachterle reviewed the Committee's responsibilities as described in the Faculty Handbook and summarized the key activities and actions from the last academic year.

3. Preparation for spring NEASC visit, including any new outcomes data for this year (Heinricher).

NEASC is scheduled to visit WPI from 18th-21st of March, 2012 in order to make recommendations for extension of WPI's accreditation. Clarkson University President, Mr. Tony Collins, the Chair of the NEASC visiting Committee, will visit WPI on Nov. 29th in order to assist us in preparations for the visit. All the documentation for the visit will be available in a designated conference room at the Gordon Library.

In preparation for the visit, the Committee discussed:

- a. **The "Assessment Plan for Institutional Learning Outcomes at WPI"** (Revised version from November 20th, 2009). Dean Heinricher will coordinate the update of the Plan's matrix with new data. The Committee will develop a new schedule for the Appendix A, including IQP and MQP evaluations.
 - b. i. **The "Engineering Exit Survey for 2011 Graduating Seniors" (EBI)**. Overall, the survey indicates that our students are better prepared in technical areas than their peers from six comparable institutions. The Committee will initiate discussions with some Departments, as the survey indicates that there is room for improvement in quality of teaching. The Committee will continue discussing the EBI at the next meeting.
 - ii. **The "National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)"** for all second-semester first-year students and seniors. WPI participates in this survey every 3 years with other schools. The NSSE survey was done 2 years ago.
4. The recently completed **Self study** will be discussed at the next meeting.
 5. The next meeting will be held on November 17th at 2 pm in the Gordon Library conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanja Dominko, Secretary
Biology and Biotechnology Department