

Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the UOAC, April 9, 2014

Members in Attendance: Art Heinricher, Chrys Demetry, Jill Rulfs , Kent Rissmiller, Elizabeth Desjardins (student representative), Satya Shivkumar (secretary)

The meeting convened at 10:05 a.m.

1. The minutes of the April 2 UOAC meeting were approved.
2. Art handed out the revised draft of Advisor Report on MQP learning. There were additional discussions about the questions in the form and further revisions were suggested. It was agreed that after these revisions, the draft Advisor report on MQP learning along with the Advisor Report for IQP learning should be sent to CAP for evaluation.
3. The discussion of the latest EBI survey was reinitiated. The EBI survey indicated there were some concerns are the quality of teaching for math (differential equations was an area where we scored below the “select six” WPI compares ourselves to). In 2013, however, WPI was rated 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 6 schools, so the trends are not clear. Overall, the student assessment of learning at WPI was rated excellent, with a 6 out of 7 on the scale used. Some discussion of related issues followed. The NEASC survey had indicated an examination of time student task. WPI students report working harder than their peer group. Almost 30% report working more than 30 hr per week outside of class. By comparison, this number was between 23 and 25 for other schools. UOAC is monitoring student time on task and the trend appears to be in the right direction with more students reporting spending greater than 30 hr per week. It was indicated that the questions on societal impact of engineering solutions and on design experience do not compare as well with other institutions. An examination of this issue was suggested. It was suggested that students should be made aware that they should consider both coursework and project work while answering these questions including those on sustainability.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Satya Shivkumar