

Minutes of UOAC Meeting #3 on September 29, 2016

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm in the Taylor Conference Room. In attendance: L. Mathews (chair), C. Demetry, A. Heinricher, H. Ault (scribe), J. deWinter, D. Olinger.
2. Minutes of the meetings on 9/15 and 9/22 were accepted with revisions.
3. Dean Heinricher announced that he has received data from the student MQP reports for the past 3 years. Results are generally positive, with some interesting differences between departments. He will bring copies of the compiled data to the next meeting.
4. Prof. Olinger reported that the proposed changes to the faculty handbook were approved by CAP last week and sent to COG for review. These changes cover the addition of the Director of Institutional Research to the committee. Ms. Donta-Venman will be invited as a guest while these changes are pending.
5. The committee continued to discuss the undergraduate learning outcomes. Prof. deWinter distributed copies of learning objectives from a selection of other institutions, including some peer institutions (Cal Tech, RPI, RIT, MIT, CMU, Harvey Mudd) as well as those considered to be innovators in post-secondary education (Olin College, Smith College, Evergreen State College). Information available on these universities' websites was found to be interesting, but does not provide information regarding the assessment of these learning outcomes. Dean Heinricher noted that the institutional learning outcomes should be framed such that existing departmental assessments can support assessment at the institutional level. He will provide NEASC E series matrix for discussion at the next meeting. Prof. Demetry noted that some departments expand the interpretation of the institutional learning outcomes in order to facilitate assessment at the department level. The degree programs do not all need to contribute to every learning outcome, since some of the institutional learning outcomes are supported by the IQP and/or HUA requirements. The committee will continue to collect information on assessment of learning outcomes from other institutions for comparison.
6. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.