Undergraduate Outcome Assessment Committee (UOAC) Annual report, 2013-2014

Committee: Kristen Billiar (Chair), Satya Shivkumar (secretary), Art Heinricher (Dean of Undergraduate Studies), Chrys Demetry (Director of Morgan Teaching & Learning Center), Jill Rulfs (CAP representative), Neil Heffernan, Kent Rissmiller, Elizabeth Desjardins (student representative)

The Undergraduate Outcomes Assessment Committee held 22 meetings during the 2013-2014 academic year.

1) The majority of the time in committee was spent developing Advisor Reports on MQP and IQP Learning.
   a. A memo describing the rationale for the assessment and suggested implementation details of these assessment instruments was drafted for CAP. The memo will be submitted to CAP following review of pilot data (see 1b below).
   b. A pilot test of the assessment instruments was conducted by Chrys Demetry in May 2014. Seventeen faculty members from 13 departments or programs participated in one of two group meetings or one individual meeting. In AY2015, the committee recommends that the results of this test will be incorporated into the memo to CAP regarding implementation of the instruments.

2) The committee examined the Student MQP Report data from AY2013, both institute-wide and by program.
   a. The Morgan Center hosted a meeting with program directors to share program-level MQP practices.
   b. The Dean of Undergraduate Studies disseminated a summary report to Dept. Heads and Program Directors.
   c. UOAC developed a plan for piloting the Advisor Report on MQP Learning with select faculty members this May.

3) The committee examined the draft UOAC matrix from the previous year. The need to update sources of data in many categories was recognized, but no further action was completed. Once the updated assessment is completed, the results should be communicated to departments and programs so that they may gain from the lessons learned.

4) The committee reviewed the 2013 EBI data and noted that WPI is doing well overall, yet recognized a few areas of concern including Math (esp. Differential Equations).

5) The committee agreed on the need to generate a rotating calendar for MQP and IQP reviews.

Faithfully submitted,
Kristen Billiar