Minutes
Meeting of the Assessment Committee
Thursday, March 9, 2006
Academic Affairs Conference Room (2147), Founder’s Hall 3:30 p.m.

Present: Elliott, Fronczak, Hodge, Jackowiak, Moore, Powell, Wheeler, Wilke

Absent: Bishop, Blauwkamp, Butler, Crocker, Cutler, Hoehner, Skinner, Unruh

Guests: Andrea Childress and Jeremy Schnieder

The meeting was called to order by Glen Powell, committee chair.

I. Dr. Murray has accepted the assessment strategic plan developed by the Governance subcommittee. When Powell presented it to him, they discussed how it fit well with the goals of the strategic planning committee for the entire campus, and now Powell has begun attending strategic planning committee meetings to further integrate the assessment process into the overall planning process for the campus.

II. Powell distributed documents from a presentation by Dr. Noren at the most recent Board of Regents meeting regarding assessment processes on a university-wide level. Currently the Regents are discussing the implementation of a standardized test on each campus. Powell, along with an assessment representative from each university campus, has been invited to present current assessment practices at the April meeting of the Board of Regents.

III. Powell introduced Andrea Childress and Jeremy Schnieder who were present to share information regarding e-portfolios.

   A. Childress has been researching the best type of e-portfolio software to purchase for the campus. She has been investigating two basic options: one program called OSP that would require UNK personnel to create the system, which would allow for greater customization and sophistication; and another program developed by the Blackboard company called Content System. Content System would work with the Blackboard system the campus is currently using. It is simpler than OSP, but it would be easier to administer and more cost efficient.

   B. Schnieder presented several sample e-portfolios he has created on the Blackboard Content System program. He explained the process he went through in setting them up, as well as some of the features that are available, and he shared his enthusiasm for the program, saying it is very easy to work with and while it may be simpler, he feels it does have tremendous possibility.

   C. The assessment committee gave a general consensus expressing support for the continued research and development of e-portfolios. Members of the committee identified specific benefits resulting from the implementation of e-portfolio software, specifically the Blackboard Content System, and members felt it would benefit not only students and faculty but be a valuable tool to aid in the assessment process on campus.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Elliott, Scribe
Glen Powell, Chair