Minutes of the Meeting of the Assessment Committee  
February 8, 2010 – 3:30 p.m.  
Academic Affairs Conference Room, Founder’s Hall 2147

Present: Chair Jeanne Butler, Paul Bishop, Wayne Briner, Karin Covalt, Ron Crocker, Mary Kommers, George Lawson, Richard Meznarich, Susan Mueller, Keri Pearson and Scott Unruh

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order by Director of Assessment, Jeanne Butler, at the above time and place.

Old Business:

I. Assessment Meeting & Luncheon
Butler reminded the committee members that the Annual Assessment Awards Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at 12 noon in the Cedar Room of the Nebraskan. At present, we have approximately 50 positive responses for attendance. Butler encouraged the committee members to attend.

New Business:

I. Implementation Plan for GS Assessment
NCA was not happy with the results of the General Studies Assessment and recommended several changes, including

- Consistent interpretation of GS learning outcomes across departments
- Common methods and instruments used to measure GS outcomes
- Standardized rubrics used to evaluate performance.

Therefore, North Central has requested a status report by April 2011 to review the progress in assessing our new GS program. Dr. Butler and Dr. Jean Mandernach collaborated this year to come up with common assessment methods and instruments. Butler shared the Proposed Approach for Meeting Accreditation Requirements with the General Studies Committee last week and will be meeting with Deans, chairs, and faculty to present the common methods and measures. These will be implemented for Fall 2010 in all Portal courses. This will replace the former department level GS reports so individual departments will not do a General Studies Assessment Report in the future.

General Studies will continue to use the ACT Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) standardized tests of essay writing and critical thinking to provide program level assessment of two of the major outcomes that can be measured with standardized instruments.

II. Strategic Plan for Assessment 2010-2014
Director Butler shared a draft of the Assessment Strategic Plan 2010-2014 that she has
been working on this year. It can be found on the Assessment website home page at http://www.unk.edu/academicaffairs/assessment.aspx?id=4323.

The Strategic Plan is based on feedback from the Higher Learning Commission in 2008. In addition to their comments on GS Assessment they recommended the following for all department assessment reporting:

There were five specific suggestions from the NCA team:

1. Insure the sustainability of the current assessment effort
2. Develop a cadre of “experts” on assessment
3. Review/revise student learning outcomes and measures
4. Develop appropriate rubrics for evaluating learning outcomes
5. Develop curriculum maps

We have made tremendous strides, some of which include:

1. Implementation of WEAVEonline
2. Elimination of separate WI reports
3. Elimination of separate GS reports
4. Simplifying department measures and reports
5. Development of a group of assessment experts
6. Individual meetings with departments that are still having problems
7. Development of common rubrics
8. Implementation of Student Life assessment process
9. Implementation of Student Life departmental learning outcomes for data collection and reporting of results in Fall 2010

### III. Other

There will be an internal search for an Assessment Coordinator conducted in Fall 2010. This will provide two semesters for the Coordinator to get up to speed before Dr. Butler retires in December 2011. At that time a search will be made for a new Director of Assessment to prepare for the accreditation visit in 2014.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, meeting adjourned at 5 p.m. The time and place of the next meeting of the Committee will be on **March 8, 2010, at 4 p.m. in FNDH 2147.**