

NCA Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Preparation Committee
Minutes
Friday, March 28, 2003 (Third Meeting)

Present: Tom Manning, Peggy Davidson, Nick Dvoracek, Craig Fiedler, Dale Feinauer, Jaya Jambunathan, John Koker, Jean Kwaterski, Quintin Sullivan.

The meeting was called to order at 10:35a.m. Committee members introduced themselves because of new classified staff member Jean Kwaterski.

Since Co-Chair Genisio was not yet present to explain the "*Preliminary Tasks for NCA Accreditation Committee*" handout, Co-Chair Manning started with agenda item #2.

Agenda Item #2: Examine relationship between NCA Self-study and Annual Report: Manning handed out *Comparison of NCA Proposed Criteria for Accreditation with UW Oshkosh Strategic Planning Process*. Numbers 1 and 2 of NCA criteria are on planning; goals 3, 4, and 5 are on teaching, research and service. The new NCA criteria seem to parallel our UW Oshkosh Strategic Planning Process. Manning's analysis is that the six sets of core values in JW Oshkosh's Mission Statement may be similar to NCA's five criteria for accreditation. If this proves true then the Committee's task will become easier. UW Oshkosh Mission Statement and Strategic Direction One will fulfill NCA's criteria one: Mission and Integrity. Parallel between NCA Criteria # 2 and Strategic Direction Five

D Possible relationship between NCA Criteria #4 and Strategic Direction One

Manning and Genisio will attend a daylong workshop at the April NCA meeting in Chicago on April 12-13, designed for schools preparing for accreditation. They will report their findings at the April 18th meeting.

Agenda Item #3: Review reporting processes across campus with eye to reducing duplication

Handout of UW Oshkosh Reporting Organizational Chart gives overall picture of reporting systems on campus and also identifies reports that are already in place. Related processes such as enrollment and admission data, and budget information, might help the Committee avoid duplication and gather timely information from compatible reporting models. If everyone asks the same questions, we can all use the same answers. In-place reporting areas provide quantitative information such as student profile, ACT averages, class rankings, etc.

Agenda Item #1: Preliminary Tasks for NCA Accreditation Committee

D Committee first needs to address the concerns from the last NCA visit in 1997 (see hand-out: "*Report of a Visit to UW Oshkosh, April 28-30, 1997*", pages 36-38).

1. Assessment plan was in initial stages of implementation and needed more compliance from departments in order to move forward.
2. General education - reduction in available courses and more concise statements of goals and objectives.
3. That graduate programs should be treated as distinctly separate programs from the undergraduate experience.

Examine what progress has been made in the three problem areas:

- 1 The Assessment Committee has the following website:

- D Committee needs to take a close look at our strategic directions and current data to find out if will be adequate for the NCA re-accreditation.
- D Identify needs and make a list of tasks and evaluate what we need to undertake; list explicit and implicit problem areas; list these needs/problems in order of importance.
 - 1. Include any other issues/concerns that may have been raised since 1997:
 - Our ratio of students to staff is high in UW System.

Agenda Item #4: Other items

Discussion on Academic Quality Improvement Project (AQIP), the Higher Learning Commission NCA, as alternative process for maintaining accreditation.

- o 13 out of 82 schools are Wisconsin based
- o no major research schools involved
- o member institutions are very diverse (many technical colleges) and attaining consensus on criteria within/among members might be difficult.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marleen Flack Recorder