

2007 Assessment Task Force Meeting

April 27, 2007

10 AM-12 Noon

SCHEV Main Conference Room

In attendance: Aday (for Nichol), Anderson, Barnes (for Meyers), DeFilippo, Genteman, McWee, Sullivan

1. The leadership of the Task Force was discussed
 - Consensus agreement that the TF should be headed by a president conversant with assessment and able to engage actively in TF activities. SCHEV will proceed to identify a new chair.
2. There was discussion of the logistics of beginning value-added assessment in fall 2007, since institutional plans will have been developed well before the task force's recommended guidelines have been finalized.
 - Consensus agreement that as a practical matter institutions would have to proceed for fall 2007 without benefit of the task force's final guidance.
3. In response to the Council's official charge to the task force, there was extensive discussion of an operating conception of value-added assessment that will strike an appropriate balance between the first two bullets of the charge, which state:
 - (1) "the Task Force shall ensure that its recommended guidelines afford institutions the flexibility to establish outcomes and concomitant methods of assessment that are appropriate to their student bodies and programmatic missions;"

and

 - (2) "the Task Force shall examine and make recommendations regarding the parameters within which institutional assessment plans will include the demonstration of value added as a complement to the purpose of program improvement."
 - The task force adopted the following statement as the operating conception of value added assessment:

Value added assessment measures indicate progress, or lack thereof, as a consequence of the student's institutional experience. It is incumbent on the institution to define and justify the methodology and validity of the assessment it proposes to conduct.
4. The task force discussed a proposed format for its final report, which is attached as "AssessTF-Report-Outline".

- Consensus agreement that the proposed format would be a useful template for its final report.
5. With regard to its next meeting, scheduled for May 30th, there was consensus agreement:
- to take up parameters of appropriate assessment methods (Dr. Robin Anderson volunteered to prepare a typology of methods to review, in consultation with Dr. Gentemann); and
 - to enlist a recognized national expert both to work with the task force on the developing guidelines and on the review of institutions' submitted plans for fall 2007.
6. Vice Chancellor Monty Sullivan agreed to brief the Council's Academic Affairs Committee on May 8 on the task force's deliberations thus far.