UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPSTATE
FACULTY STANDING COMMITTEE YEAR END REPORT

Date: May 13, 2013

Committee: Program Assessment Committee

Members: LEE NEIBERT (FACS); RON FULBRIGHT (INFO); CHRIS VIDAS (LIB);
BEN MONTGOMERY (NSE); TREVOR RUBENZER (HPPA); JOAN LACHANCE (SOE);
LYNETTE GIBSON (SON); JAY COFFMAN (LLC); ANDREW BEER (PSY); ROB
SARVER (SCW); MUHAMMED HAMEED(MCS); ELIZABETH COLE (JCBE);

       Committee Chair: Andrew Beer

       Ex- Officio: CHARLEY HARRINGTON (SVC); JENNIFER PARKER (CAS)
       Other non-voting members: BRIAN MALLORY (IRAP); SHERYL
       TURNER-WATTS (VCABA)

Meetings Conducted: There were four (4) meetings of this committee during the 2012-2013
academic year. They were held on the following dates:

       October 5, 2012 @ 1:00
       February 1, 2013 @ 1:00
       February 22, 2013 @ 1:00
       April 12, 2013 @ 1:00

Actions/Activities/Accomplishments: Twenty-two (of a possible 28) assessment program
reports were evaluated. Of these 22, 16 were on time and required no modification, 2 were on
time and required modification, 2 were late but required no modification, 1 was late and
required modification, and 1 was late and still in review. See the attached table for details.   In
addition, we are currently evaluating a new assessment plan from the School of Nursing.   As
for the six units from which we did not receive reports, I have appended an explanation from
Jerome Lewis for our failure to receive reports from Computer Science and CIS, and the
committee advised IDS, Sociology, and Chemistry to add this year's data to next year's reports.
We received no reply from Informatics regarding the status of their report.

In other business, Andrew Beer and Brian Mallory plan to work over the summer to develop a
training module (perhaps in the form of a podcast) for new program assessment coordinators.
This would replace the annual meeting, which has become increasingly difficult to schedule.
The committee also discussed moving to Sharepoint or some other shared file management
system to facilitate report evaluation. Andrew Beer (PSY) was nominated and re-elected as
chair-elect of the UAC for 2013-2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Beer
Chair, Program Assessment Committee

Program	Submitted	On Time	Accepted without Modification
Art Studio	Yes	Yes	No
Biology	Yes	Yes	Yes
Business	Yes	Yes	No
Chemistry	No	N/A	N/A
Communications	Yes	No	
Computer Information Systems	No	N/A	N/A
Computer Science	No	N/A	N/A
Criminal Justice	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education-Art	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education--Early Childhood	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education--Elementary	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education--Learning Disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education--Middle Grades	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education--Physical Ed	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education--Secondary	Yes	Yes	Yes
Education--Graduate ECE/Elem.	Yes	No	Yes
Education--Graduate VI	Yes	No	Yes
Engineering Technology Mgmt.	Yes	Yes	Yes
English	Yes	Yes	Yes
History	Yes	No	Yes
Informatics	No	N/A	N/A
Interdisciplinary Studies	No	N/A	N/A
Mathematics	Yes	No	No
Nursing	Yes	Yes	Yes
Political Science	Yes	Yes	Yes
Psychology	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sociology	No	N/A	N/A
Spanish	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 1.Summary data regarding individual program assessment reports.   More detailed information on these reports can be made available upon request.

Appendix

Andrew and Brian:

Here's what happened.

I last submitted annual assessment reports for CS and CIS, as I had for several years, in October of 2011.   Because I could no longer keep up with the workload of this office and do the program assessment for CS and CIS, I turned program assessment over to Rick Chow and Sebastian van Delden.   Last year, as you know, both of them abruptly left MCS for other opportunities.   I was assured that these reports would be completed before the end of last summer, but unfortunately this simply did not happen.

The best we can do this year is to get one of the two remaining   CS faculty members (with any experience to speak of) to undertake program assessment for CS/CIS in time to deliver a meaningful assessment report next October.   I am hoping Frank Li will agree to do this.   Our CS program is scheduled for a general review by ABET, our accreditation board, next year.   The Self-Study will be due on July 1, 2014.   There are new assessment standards, so we need a new assessment plan and system in place that will satisfy both USC Upstate and ABET.   Whoever agrees to do this (it won't be me) will need to attend one of ABET's comprehensive assessment workshops this spring and begin the process of rebuilding our program assessment so that it satisfies these new standards.   Rick had agreed to do all this, and we thought we had everything covered, but alas he is gone and we are left scrambling.

My last day as chair of MCS is June 30, 2013.   I'm not sure who will succeed me, but I hope to leave office with designated assessment coordinators for you to work with.   Mike Hudak agreed to write the Math Assessment Report for this year, but he is hoping to pass the job to someone else.   We have a few people in mind, but no one has agreed yet to do it.

Computer Science has been hard hit, and I hope you will take this into consideration.   We lost Dan Cooke to retirement three years ago, we lost Rick Chow and Sebastian van Delden to other opportunities in 2012, and Ken Pestka is retiring this May.   The only 1 of these 4 whose replacement is on board is Rick Chow, whose replacement joined MCS on January 1, 2013.   We have never been allowed to start a search to replace Dan Cooke; Sebastian's replacement will be here in August; we will soon begin a search for Ken's replacement.   The heart of our lineup has been torn away, and, quite frankly, we are having difficulty covering the bases.   I would greatly appreciative it if, under the circumstances, we could be granted a pass for this year with the promise that we will back in step by next October.