

Meeting of the Villanova University Academic Policy Committee

Monday, February 25, 2013
Mendel Science Center, room 103, 12:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Louise Russo (chair), Paul Pasles, Wayne Bremser, Bob Styer, Mark Doorley, Craig Wheeland, Dennis Kuhn, Paul Hanouna, Adele Lindenmeyr, Mary Ann Cantrell, Catherine Warrick, Sridhar Santhanam, Jutta Seibert, Edwin Goff

Not in Attendance: JeanAnn Linney (NIA), Lesley Perry (NIA), Randy Weinstein, Joyce Willens (NIA), Kelly Welch (NIA), Ken Kroos (NIA), Wenhong Luo, Chris Marroletti (NIA), Ali Yousaf, Caroline Kemp, Aaron Moore, Christine Alizzi, Fayette Veverka, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Jack Chong, Daniel Troiano

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm

I. The chair welcomed Jim Trainer, Paul Bonfanti, and Nurit Friedman from OPIR were welcomed as invited guests to continue the discussion of a change in CATS reporting language. The following issues were the focal point of discussion:

- a. Considering that the APC CATS analysis report made the recommendation that a deviation of ± 0.2 from the mean value places are insignificant, should the use of quartile language be discontinued since the value range would account for most of the quartile
- b. Could quartiles be replaced by top and bottom deciles as a way to highlight the "outliers"
- c. Would issues arise within small departments where score range does not fit the normal distribution
- d. Is it possible to generate aggregate CATS score reports that have longer temporal range to more effectively highlight faculty development trends as opposed to a "snap shot" capture of data from a single offering of a course

The committee requested that OPIR complete a sample analysis and report representing the recommendation that a range of ± 0.2 is insignificant difference from the department mean for that assessment measure. This will provide a framework for understanding how a change in reporting from quartile to decile would affect interpretation of outcome for faculty assessment/development purposes.

II. The chair shared a communication from Silvia Nagy-Zekmi who raised the question of whether the CATS vehicle could transition to a fully online assessment process as opposed to an in-class paper administration. Dr. Nagy-Zekmi shared information on mechanisms that were used at other

institutions to promote/force student participation suggesting that mechanisms can be defined that would ensure sufficient data collection as necessary to validate online CATS data for faculty assessment. Craig Wheeland indicated that this option was explored by the VPAA's Office and that he would be able to share this information with the membership at an upcoming meeting for purpose of discussion. The chair will add this discussion item to the agenda of the April APC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 am

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Russo

Members of APC: Louise Russo (chair), Wayne Bremser, Fayette Veverka, Robert Styer, Adele Lindenmeyr, Edwin Goff, Kelly Welch, Mary Ann Cantrell, Louise Fitzpatrick (represented by Lesley Perry), Joyce S. Willens, Wenhong Luo, Paul Pasles, Paul Hanouna, Kail Ellis (represented by Craig Wheeland), Jean Ann Linney, Gary Gabriele (represented by Randy Weinstein), Patrick Maggitti (represented by Dennis Kuhn), Catherine Warrick, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Mark Doorley, Sridhar Santhanam, Kenneth Kroos, Aaron Moore, Jutta Seibert, Jack Chong, Christine Alizzi, Caroline Kemp, Daniel Troiano, Christopher Marroletti (non-voting member), Ali Yousef, Sophie Kagan (ex officio non-voting member)