

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA
Institutional Effectiveness Committee
ANNUAL REPORT
2007-2008

I. Executive Summary:

2007-08 Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Committee members included:

Dr. Birdie Bailey (CONAH dean)	Dr. Donna Jacobs (COE dean)
Dr. Phil Bridgmon (A&S fac. rep.)	Dr. Alan Medders (VP. Advancement.)
Dr. Roosevelt Newson (VP/Programs)	Dr. Andrew Luna (Director of Assessment)
Dr. Pam Fernstrom (Educ. fac. rep.)	Mr. Kevin Jacques (Stud. Affairs rep.)

Effectiveness. The IE Committee's activities were altered by a change in the VPAA's office early in the AY and a new Director of Research, Assessment, and Planning.

II. The Committee's Charge:

1. To communicate its deliberations and findings, through the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, to the President for approval and dissemination to the university community;

2. To review in a systematic cycle and make recommendations for indicated changes to critical university documents (i.e., mission, institutional goals, value statement, strategic plan, etc.)

3. To recommend, publish, and implement adequate procedures for assessing and documenting the effective support of the institution's goals by all campus units;

4. To provide leadership for ensuring that the looping process of assessment and evaluation, appropriate feedback, and budgeting is completed and that the results of evaluations are reflected in modifications to programs and services and in the allocation of physical, financial, and personnel resources; and

5. To assess whether the expected outcomes have been achieved and to ensure continuous improvement in university administration, academic programs, and educational support services.

III. The Committee met on the following dates:

September 19, 2007

October 24, 2007

November 27, 2007

January 16, 2008

February 13, 2008

March 12, 2008 (no quorum)

April 9, 2008

May 2, 2007

A. Specify whether a quorum was present for each meeting.

A quorum was present for all meetings except for our March 2008 meeting.

B. Where are the minutes of these Committee meetings posted?

Committee Charge: To provide leadership for ensuring that the looping process of assessment and evaluation, appropriate feedback, and budgeting is completed and that the results of evaluations are reflected in modifications to programs and services and in the allocation of physical, financial, and personnel resources; and

Actions Taken: Very little was accomplished in this area. The IE Committee Chair and Strategic Planning and Budget Study Committee Chair did exchange visits to their counterparts Committee. Both expressed a strong desire for the Committees to work closely together. The IE Committee Chair expressed that once assessment is fully integrated into program evaluations, richer data should be available to aid the SPBSC in its deliberations.

Committee Charge: To assess whether the expected outcomes have been achieved and to ensure continuous improvement in university administration, academic programs, and educational support services.

Actions Taken: Throughout the AY, the IE Committee had a qualitative “feel” that the change in leadership within the OIRPA had slowed momentum that developed the prior year. Within meetings of the IE Committee, several discussions were held that placed an emphasis on the need to make greater strides in assisting the campus community with understanding assessment, development of outcomes specific to program areas, and identifying data to assist in evaluation of those outcomes.

Four departments volunteered to complete Academic Reviews. Reports should be available to the IE Committee at its early fall 2008 meetings.

V. What were the Committee’s formal recommendations?

The IE Committee approved Guide revisions that fully incorporate a clear role for

The OIRPA is the primary office responsible for developing the...procedures, protocols, and documents that support the University's assessment programs.

VI. What does the Committee plan to accomplish?

A. In the coming year?

The upcoming year should not be one of transition. The new Director of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Planning (*ex officio* member of the IE Committee) has now spent a year in office and has become acclimated to UNA and its policy documents. The Institutional Effectiveness Committee and OIRAP will have a

Fortunately, more University

Comments:

While progress was made on the core commitments of the IE Committee, the change in leadership within the VPAA's office caused a reorientation of the Committee's priorities. The instruction that IRPA would be held primarily responsible for assessment is welcome and needed. UNA's assessment program, while a year old, does not appear to be fully embraced by IRPA. Commitments by IRPA to managing the assessment process have been slow to develop.

For UNA to be successful, the OIRPA office must elevate assessment to its chief priority for the next several years. Once the assessment program is in place, the office can then return to balance of research, planning, and assessment. Given assessments infancy at UNA, this is a critical piece to our success as an institution, particularly with regards to reaffirmation and governance.

July 24, 2008

ANNUAL REPORT

Date Due: July 25, 2008

Institutional Effectiveness Committee

**University of North Alabama
Florence, Alabama**

Phil Bridgmon, Ph.D. Committee Chair

Date submitted

Submitted to: _____
Garry Warren, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date received