

Regent's Advisory Committee on Institutional Effectiveness

September 30, 2008 - 10 – 11:30am

Meeting via Telephone Conference

Agenda

Purpose of Meeting: Reach a consensus about whether RACIE should be continued and, if so, what its mission, membership and committee processes should be; and establish a small working group to put the results of the meeting in writing and present them to this group for approval in the near future.

I. Introductions

Note: Since there may be a fairly large number of people on this call, please simply identify yourself by name as you call in. Once we are ready start, we will go around and introduce ourselves by name and institution.

Note: In order to reduce confusion in a call of this size, please quickly mention your name/institution each time you speak

II. History and Prior Accomplishments of RACIE

I will ask Dr. Hudson and those who have served on the committee in the past to provide their perspective on this topic.

Note: this committee has been inactive for a significant time period.

III. Summary of Committee Survey Results

a. There was a high level of agreement that the **first step for RACIE this year should be to clearly define our mission, membership and processes**

b. The most commonly appearing themes concerning the role of RACIE were:

- i. Provide a network and opportunities for collaboration concerning IE
 1. Share information about successes/challenges
- ii. Develop best practices in the IE area
- iii. Serve as a clearinghouse/repository for information about IE

- iv. Develop standardized responses for USG institutions, when applicable, to SACS Core requirements
 - v. Provide institutions with a voice to the USG
 - vi. Assure that USG institutions are collectively a national leader in the IE area, particularly quality enhancement and student learning outcomes
- c. There was a high level of agreement that the following should be within the scope of RACIE
- i. Best Practices – SACS (Quality Enhancement Plan) High importance rating
 - ii. Best Practices – SACS (Compliance with Principles) High importance rating
 - iii. Best Practices – SACS (Substantive Change) High importance rating
 - iv. Best Practices – SACS (Assessment of College Level Competencies) High importance rating
 - v. Best Practices – Organization and Structure of an IE Office Medium importance rating
 - vi. Best Practices – Comprehensive Program Review – High importance rating
 - vii. Best Practices – Voluntary System of Accountability – Medium importance rating
- d. There was some support, but not consensus, for including the following within the scope of RACIE
- i. Best Practices – SACS (Faculty Credentials)
 - ii. Best Practices – Specialized accreditation
- e. Other topics mentioned by members as important are:
- i. SACS – Institutional Effectiveness
 - ii. SACS – Student Learning Outcomes (appeared frequently)
 - iii. SACS – Role of accreditation liaison
 - iv. SACS – Interpretation of Requirements
 - v. SACS – Latest developments
 - vi. SACS – Mock Reviews and Consulting Assistance
 - vii. SACS – Monitoring Reports and Sanctions
 - viii. Faculty Activity Reporting (appeared frequently)
 - ix. Data Warehousing
 - x. Performance Measures
 - xi. 6 Sigma

- xii. Transfer success rates to and from other USG institutions
- f. Frequency of meetings
 - i. Most suggested once per semester – one suggested bimonthly and one suggested twice per semester
 - ii. One extremely interesting suggestion is as follows:
 - 1. Full committee should consist of SACS liaison for all 35
 - a. Meet annually (shortly following SACS annual meeting)
 - b. Two day retreat
 - 2. Create standing committees of the full committee
 - a. Meet electronically throughout the year
- g. Location of meetings – there was about an equal split between electronic meetings and a central location in state
- h. Other suggestions
 - i. Create a RACIE website – not just minutes of meetings and similar documents –
 - 1. Public site
 - 2. Communication tool
 - 3. Working tool
 - ii. Rename RACIE
 - 1. One suggestion is Regents Advisory Committee on Accreditation
 - iii. Adopt an outcomes-oriented approach to the annual retreat (see fii above)
 - 1. Critical review of latest updates and developments pertaining to SACS-COC
 - 2. Status reports on SACS-COC reviews of USG institutions in last year
 - 3. Critical discussions of annual outcomes reports of the standing committees (disseminated prior to annual retreat)
 - 4. Critical review and discussion of the Committee’s latest annual assessment of the degree to which it is achieving its mission
 - 5. Adjust charges and composition of standing committees as needed
 - 6. Professional development presentation or workshop

IV. Future Direction for RACIE

- a. One of the survey responses provided the following important insight on this direction: “It is time for RACIE to either transform itself and evolve into an active, engaged, relevant and valued ... committee or be disbanded. RACIES’s lack of clear purpose ... , its limited membership structure, and its inability to walk-the-talk of institutional effectiveness in its own operation has led to it poor state of health as a viable committee in recent years...”

V. Scheduling of Future Meetings

When?

Electronic?

VI. Adjourn

Summary of RACIE Meeting
Telephone conference
Tuesday, 09/30/2008 10-11:30am

Participating:

Bello, Susan

Boehmer, Bob

Codjoe, Henry

Cragg, Kristina

Finn, Mary

Hortman, Bill

Mayes-Hudson, Cathie

Lancaster, Juliana

Ledbetter, Cathy

Paraska, Susan

Watterson, Reneva

Rugg, Ed

Webster, Valerie

Young, Denise

Summary of Discussion:

History of RACIE:

Cathie Mayes-Hudson and Ed Rugg provided a history of RACIE from the mid 1980s to the present:

Formed in approximately 1986 as ad hoc working group due to emerging focus on IE and student learning outcomes

Approved formally in 1990 upon recommendation of President's Advisory Committee

Some contributions include:

- Developed assessment manuals (now out of date)
- Held SACS workshops around the state
- Linked facilities and academic planning
- Council on General Education and Council on Majors sprung out of RACIE
- Recommended institutional strategic planning guidelines
- Developed CPR policy and procedures

In recent years, RACIE has lost its focus and direction

Future Directions for RACIE

Key themes – consensus was not reached, but the key themes in the discussion were:

- Need for RACIE to be continued
- Must maintain a direct connection to USG
- Should retain focus on IE and accountability

But consider broadening activities to more focus on what students should know and be following graduation, quality enhancement and SACS

Do not split RACIE into separate committees – consider enlarging committee to include all 35 USG institutions and break into working subgroups

Working group formed to address above issues and make recommendations to entire committee:

Susan Bello

Bob Boehmer

Kristina Cragg

Juliana Lancaster

Cathie Mayes-Hudson

Ed Rugg