The second Institutional Assessment Council meeting of the 2014-15 academic year place on Thursday, November 11, 2014, and was held in the Office of Academic Innovation. Co-chairs Janelle Voegele and Vicki Wise opened the meeting with a welcome, followed by introductions of individual members. 11 members were present: Erica Wagner, Rowanna Carpenter, Karen Strand, Vicki Wise, Neil Ramiller, James Hook, Janelle Voegele, Robert Halstead, Charles Klein, Leslee Peterson, Suzanne Matthews, and Gerald Recktenwald, with 2 members absent (Jeremy Parra, Tom Belavitz).

Rowanna Carpenter reviewed assessment work and planning in University Studies connected to the Online Pathways project.  The two goals of the Pathways Project are to support projects that create fully online degrees at PSU, and to help students avoid scheduling conflicts between University Studies and the major.  Project goals are as follows:

- Focus on UNST Learning Goals (Goals)
- Use Inquiry-based Engaging Pedagogy (Pedagogy)
- Include High Quality Civic Engagement (Engagement)
- Support Curricular Coherence (Coherence)
- Increase students’ understanding of UNST (Understanding)
- Guide Online Student Research Projects (Research)
- Improve Faculty Online Teaching Skills (Teaching)

Assessment measures include intake surveys, Quality Matters Review surveys, course evaluations, reflections on lessons learned, student work samples, and library module feedback.  Link to the presentation here

Committee discussion focused on strategies for electronically highlighting and sharing exemplary assessment practices across campus.  As part of the IAC goals for 2014-2015, the IAC website will be updated, but more robust and media-rich alternatives will be needed to share exemplary practices.

Suzanne Matthews updated the Council on the progress made mapping program learning outcomes to campus wide learning outcomes.  The findings from this work will be made available on the updated IAC website and include a report comparing findings from 2014-2015 to those summarized in 2009 using Template D.  The current project evaluates program assessment activity using a revised version of Template D.  It is anticipated that findings from the current assessment mapping activity will form the basis for outreach to departments over the next two years.

Janelle Voegele previewed information that the IAC will review prior to December’s meeting on the subject of regular program assessment reporting cycles.  Council members discussed questions they would like to see addressed connected to program assessment reporting, including:

Proposed length of time (ie., one year?  Three years?)
Rationale for proposal in the context of PSU’s history with assessment
Rationale for proposal in the context of external and internal forces affecting PSU and strategic planning in the next 3-4 years

Council meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm