

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
PROVOST'S COUNCIL

John Day, Kathleen Dean, Lauren Bowen, Jeanne Colleran, Sherri Crahen, Barbara D'Ambrosia, Dwight Hahn, Jim Krukones, Mark McCarthy, Sheila McGinn, Paul V. Murphy, Karen Schuele, Brian Williams, David Wong, Sheri Young.

March 20, 2013
Minutes

Present: John Day, Kathleen Dean, Lauren Bowen, Jeanne Colleran, Sherri Crahen, Barbara D'Ambrosia, Dwight Hahn, Jim Krukones, Sheila McGinn, Paul V. Murphy, Karen Schuele, Brian Williams, David Wong, Sheri Young

J. Day convened the meeting at 9:05 AM
The Minutes of the February 13 meeting were approved.

J. Day noted that the discussion on the issue of faculty approved academic learning outcomes used in collaboration with the student affairs learning outcomes would be postponed until M. McCarthy could be in attendance.

The topic for today's meeting would be the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) data. K. Dean shared data from the NSSE survey, http://nsse.iub.edu/pdf/survey_instruments/2011/NSSE2011_US_English_Paper.pdf, which is administered every three years to the freshman and senior classes. The survey measures student engagement with the following five benchmarks:

1. Level of Academic Challenge
2. Active and Collaborative Learning
3. Student-Faculty Interaction
4. Enriching Educational Experiences
5. Supportive Campus Environment

The survey has been administered since 2005, and is administered every three years to allow time to look at and analyze data. The survey is sent to all students in the freshman and senior classes, with a 40-45% response rate. NSSE reports back to John Carroll, which includes a comparison to Jesuit and Carnegie comparator schools. She noted that the data helps us understand the student experience, and at what level students are engaged.

J. Days asked how the NSSE survey fits into the bigger picture of the HLC assessment and accreditation. K. Dean explained that the questions can be mapped to our learning goals and provide additional data in the measurement of student satisfaction, self-reported engagement, and perceptions of learning. She noted that it is most relevant that we are sharing the data at today's meeting, which is a great forum to look at how we might use the data to help strengthen the student experience.

A question was asked as to how John Carroll University compares with other Jesuit universities. K. Dean noted that the survey results show we compare very well. The survey results can also be used to show us where we can improve.

K. Dean and B. Williams explained the survey results in detail using Tableau. K. Dean noted that since the freshman and senior experiences are different, they are looked at separately. The surveys from 2005 to 2011 show an upward movement in all benchmarks.

In looking closely at the survey data, the benchmark that scored the lowest was “Enriching Educational Experience,” although there has been upward movement in that benchmark. John Carroll also has fallen short on measures of diversity, although we have also improved over time in this area.

There were questions and resulting discussion regarding how students can interpret questions differently.

K. Dean explained that the questions on the survey were developed through research, which led to the identification of markers of “high impact educational experiences.” She noted that there is a new version of the survey introduced this year that will be used at JCU in Spring 2014. Half of the questions will be the same as the present survey, one quarter of the former questions were discarded and one quarter were re-worded.

Suggestions were made to use percentages and clearer labeling in the presentation of the data. K. Dean noted it was helpful to hear reactions in order to refine the presentation of the data.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lovequist