Assessment Committee
March 24, 2017
1:01 pm

Members:  Dee A. Cooper, Cassie Firth, Lisa McGaw, Cathy Moore, Lisa Nordquist, Starla Reed, ROBIN RUYLE, Jeff Tate, Carolyn Johnson, Kathleen Otto

Ex-Officio:  Pamela Stinson, Shannon Cunningham, Rick Edgington

Guest/Chairs:  Tricia Moore, Suzi Brown

1.  Meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm.

2.  Cathy Moore moved approval of the Minutes from 11-29-16 meeting; Lisa Nordquist seconded the motion.  Motion passed unanimously.

3.  Alternative Placement for Math Courses and the State Initiatives and holistic approach were discussed.
   a.  Several institutions will now accept a senior level course in lieu of remediation.  It is not a requirement from state regents yet, but they are gathering feedback in order to determine its effectiveness. One option is a holistic approach consisting of: completing a math course during their senior year plus GPA, ACT, attendance, etc.  The State Regents office is also completing a study regarding placement and the results will be available in the fall.  With our student population, HS GPA is a strong indicator of success in College Algebra.  One suggestion for placement is a 17-18 on ACT or 15-16 plus high HS GPA.  Discussion ensued regarding that fact that using grades in high school classes may not be a determinant because of instructor bias, so ACT could be an equalizer.  Students would have a combination ACT, state SREB course, GPA and / or Accuplacer.
   b.  Kathleen Otto discussed findings of her research that high school GPA was a better indicator of success in college algebra.  Secondarily was whether they took a math course their senior year.  Most research shows that ACT alone is not a good indicator, unless combined with other indicators.  The type and level of the math course is not as relevant as the fact that they took a math course.
   c.  The state level course would have 7 modules in the course and in order for a student to use the course in lieu of remediation students would be required to demonstrate proficiency (B or better) in all 7 modules.
   d.  The Assessment Committee will need to make a recommendation on what approach to take as an institution.  Math faculty support the idea of accepting the state level course, but questioned the content of the modules and whether it is appropriate preparation for College Algebra.  Tricia Moore asked how this would affect the use of the Supplement courses with College Algebra.  The supplement courses will still be needed for those who do not meet the requirements.  Currently, no schools in our service area are providing the course – Newkirk has expressed interest, but needs to know if
Northern will accept the course before they incur the expense of the training. Cathy Moore asked if this holistic approach would apply to all remediation areas or just Math. Discussion leaned toward if we do this process for one, we should do it for all.

e. TCC and OCCC have a placement and Dr. Edgington will send out the information for their placement requirements.

f. No recommendation was made as further information is needed.

5. Review the results from the Student Satisfaction Survey
   
a. As a result of review and discussion of survey results, Tricia Moore suggested that we list the location where degrees can be obtained on degree sheets and any other pertinent location. Cathy Moore motioned. Lisa Nordquist seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Follow up meeting – Kathleen will send a doodle poll to set a follow up meeting.

7. Cathy Moore moved we adjourn. Lisa McGaw seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned 2:03 pm.