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ASSESSMENT AND TEACHING ENHANCEMENT CENTER
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From: Teaching Learning Assessment Committee

4-18-07

To: Michael Lane, President
John Schwenn, VP, Academic Affairs

Re: TLAC resolution

The Teaching Learning and Assessment Committee has reviewed and discussed results from the AY 2005 University Assessment plan reports from programs and departments. The committee has explored challenges with implementing successful assessment university-wide. Despite the assessment ESU has done for many years, our historical success cannot continue to advance without the recognition that the past was based on initiatives that were not campus-wide nor actively supported by an institutional culture. The current situation calls for assessment of student learning to become a strategic goal for the institution. Future success demands that the culture of assessment continue to develop and improve, a process that requires serious commitment and resources.

RESOLUTION:

Whereas, the leadership of ESU has expressed a strong commitment to the continued expansion and improvement of assessment strategies at all levels, and

Whereas, development is needed for intrinsic and extrinsic rewards to faculty for being involved in program assessment activities such as faculty development opportunities, career advancement, time/load reduction, conference travel, awards, and the promotion of assessment plan activities by faculty as scholarly activity, and

Whereas, developing university-wide assessment will require a multi-stage plan expressed within a realistic time-line paralleling the next strategic plan for departments to adapt to a new paradigm and to acquire the tools and skills necessary to develop an assessment infrastructure as outlined in the Program Assessment of Student Learning evaluation system, and

Whereas, development is needed of published internal guidelines on how information-based decision making will occur at ESU, and

Whereas, promotion of information-based decision-making at program and course levels is needed and should be shared through campus-wide activities, and

Whereas, the development of a culture of assessment will require funding and support for public opportunities for faculty to share information on assessment efforts, evaluation findings, program successes, and scholarship, and

Whereas, the inclusion of assessment as a core strategy is one of the requirements of the Higher Learning Commission for institutions,

Therefore be it resolved that the Teaching Learning and Assessment Committee unanimously recommends that assessment will be made an expressed goal of the new Strategic Plan.