

# *Update/Faculty Senate Report*

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## **I. NEW CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION FOR UW INSTITUTIONS**

Traditionally, the Carnegie Foundation has classified colleges and universities primarily on the basis of the highest degree granted. This week the Foundation will announce a new, more complex classification system that takes into account a number of additional factors including undergraduate student profile (full-vs. part-time, selectivity, rate of transfer), size, setting, undergraduate program mix, and graduate program array. One immediate result is to make it much easier for us to identify peer institutions on these varied dimensions. View a table sharing the new classifications for all UW institutions at <http://www.uwgb.edu/provost/2005carnegie.doc>

## **II. PLAN 2008: PHASE II EQUITY INITIATIVE**

UWGB and a number of other UW campuses are undertaking an initiative to gain new insights into how the educational experiences of our minority students may differ from those of our majority students. Building on the "Equity Scorecard" model developed at the University of Southern California, UWGB's Equity Initiative team will look at our campus data in new ways to see more specifically where our minority and majority students differ, or do not differ, with respect to such dimensions as access, retention, climate, faculty and staff recruitment, teaching, and learning. Sue Hammersmith will chair UWGB's Equity Initiative team. Other team members include Jim Coates, Debbie Furlong, Regan Gurung, Mike Marinetti, Donna Ritch, Mike Stearney, Patricia Terry, and a student representative (to be determined). The team will start working on this project Spring semester 2006.

## **III. STUDENT ENGAGEMENT**

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) measures several dimensions of student engagement, all of which are directly related to the academic and educational success of undergraduates. Unfortunately, according to our 2004 NSSE results, UWGB students appear to be significantly less engaged than their peers at other UW institutions or nationally.

Our 2000 and 2002 NSSE survey results have informed many discussions and guided planning for a more supportive campus environment (e.g., in academic advising, residence hall programming, the FOCUS program for incoming freshmen). While the NSSE results have been very helpful for planning improvements in the general campus environment, however, they have not been so useful for improving instruction, student-faculty interaction, or students' participation in "enriching educational experiences" such as internships, foreign language study, or conversations with students from diverse backgrounds.

Recently, a UWGB team consisting of Alissa Clark, Sally Dresdow, Fritz Erickson, Sue Hammersmith, Sue Keihn, and Brian Sutton attended a workshop on "next steps" campuses can take to use their NSSE results to improve their students' undergraduate educational experience. In particular, we are interested in determining the specific patterns that underlie the broad summary statistics – specific patterns that might suggest practical opportunities for improvement. We know, for instance, that students without a declared major report far different levels and kinds of engagement than do students in some of our majors.

In consultation with our various academic programs and student services, our Office of Assessment Services will develop reports and analyses to give different campus stakeholders more detailed reports on student behaviors of particular interest to their respective programs or activities. Faculty and staff who are interested in exploring our NSSE data in this fashion are invited to get in touch with any of the above-mentioned team members and to join the discussion of directions for future analysis and inquiry.

#### **IV. HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION (HLC) SELF-STUDY**

The Higher Education Commission (formerly, North Central Association) will return to the UWGB campus for our next accreditation visit in 2007. The Chancellor and Provost are planning to establish, before the semester ends, the working groups and organizational structure to be used to conduct and compile our self-study. Since our last accreditation review, HLC has adopted a new set of evaluation criteria, which few institutions have experience with to date, so this review will be a new experience for all of us. Tim Sewall will serve as project coordinator for the self-study. A copy of the proposed committee structure will be shared at the Senate meeting and posted on the Provost's Web page.

#### **V. BACHELOR OF APPLIED STUDIES PLANNING**

In keeping with the State's COBE initiative, UWGB has applied for an entitlement to plan for a new degree, a Bachelor of Applied Studies (BAS), to permit a liberal education baccalaureate completion program for holders of Associate of Applied Studies degrees. A faculty committee is working to identify the curriculum that may be proposed to fulfill our graduation requirements with such a degree and our Interdisciplinary Studies major. The committee is chaired by Bill Laatsch. Other members include Cliff Abbott, Andy Kersten, Anne Kok, Tim Meyer, Donna Ritch, and Regan Gurung.

#### **VI. MISCELLANEOUS GOOD NEWS**

**Nursing.** UWGB's Professional Program in Nursing has received a 10-year reaccreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). This is the longest period possible. Congratulations to our nursing faculty!

**Mars.** Aileen Yingst, Director of the Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium, is one of eight international scientists selected to operate the two remote-controlled rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, on the planet Mars. Funded by a grant from NASA, Aileen will be studying the morphology of rocks at the MER rover landing sites. Congratulations, Aileen!

**Scholarships.** The fourth annual Chancellor's Scholarship Dinner, held this fall at the Weidner Center, generated over \$23,000 for UWGB student scholarships. The event highlighted student achievement and featured an elegant dinner on the Weidner stage. A good time was had by all!

**Whose Land Is It?** This year's International Justice Symposium, co-sponsored by UWGB, St. Norbert College, and the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, focused on indigenous peoples' human rights and land claims. Presenters included scholars and activists from South Africa, Chile, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Oneida Nation, Pottawatami Nation, UWGB, and UW-Madison. Over 160 people attended the symposium. Thanks and congratulations to Mark Everingham (SCD), Barbara McClure-Lukens (Outreach and Adult Access), Carol Cornelius (Oneida Cultural Heritage Department), Loretta Metoxen (Oneida Tribal Historian), and others who worked to make this symposium such a success!