

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT (CAA)

MINUTES, MARCH 6, 2007

UNH 105, 3:00 – 4:00

Members present: Bill Lanford, Sue Faerman, Marjorie Pryse, Bruce Szelest, Seth Chaiken, Rose-Marie Weber, Henryk Baran, Michael Christakis, Bill Roberson, Anna Politano

Members absent: Irina Birman, Stacey Chen, Peter Duchessi, Joette Stefl-Mabry, Man Kit Tse

Marjorie Pryse briefed the Council on the Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index, created by Academic Analytics. The FSP Index collects data on faculty who are teaching in Ph.D. programs in over 400 institutions. A “classic” subscription for \$10,000/year, which UAlbany now has, provides aggregated comparisons with faculty at 10 other institutions. A premium subscription would cost \$30-40,000/year and provide additional data. Pryse is waiting to see how the data will compare to the National Research Council data. If it correlates she will recommend that the UAlbany subscription be continued. More information about Academic Analytics can be found on their website <http://www.academicanalytics.com/>

Lanford presented a draft of “CAA Special Program Assessment Procedures” to the Council. There was a discussion about the feasibility of the proposal for an academic year schedule versus a calendar year schedule. Council members pointed out that there might be difficulties in completing a review within an academic year, which is not the case currently in the Program Review process. Faerman pointed out that if the Senate functioned on the calendar year, the process could be facilitated. Szelest pointed out that the draft document did not indicate the Provost’s involvement at any level. Lanford asked for an inventory of special programs i.e. those not tied to one academic unit, for the Council to review at its next meeting. He also suggested that the next meeting include a scoping session for what the reviews of such programs should include.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kristina Bendikas