

## Graduate Programs Assessment Group

### Minutes

November 1, 2006

#### Attendance:

Judy Bense (Anthropology), George Stewart, Melanie Sutton (Biology), Klaus Meyer-Arendt (Environmental Studies), Dani Manjilicon fro Al Cuzan (Government), Jay Clune (History), Kuiyuan Li (Mathematics & Statistics), Doug Friedrich (Psychology), John Smykla (Criminal Justice/Legal Studies), Tom Kramer (Professional & Community Leadership), Jane Halonen (College of Arts & Sciences), Claudia Stanny (CUTLA)

Meeting commenced at 3:05 PM

1. Claudia Stanny summarized the reason for this second meeting: Faculty requested a formal update to ensure that they were on track with the development of assessments for graduate programs. The floor was opened to discussion of the progress made and questions that remain about the creation of suitable assessments for graduate programs.
2. There was considerable discussing of the use rubrics for the evaluation of theses, internships, and other capstone products. Some discussion focused on the value of providing these rubrics to students early in graduate studies to better communicate the expectations for these projects. The value of rubrics for easily providing positive feedback to students as well as comments and suggestions for changes and improvements was discussed. Detailed rubrics will also enable departments to examine patterns of problems encountered in thesis work and will provide diagnostic information that should be useful for improved mentoring of student work.
3. Departments will be asked to submit a copy of the rubric they develop for assessment of graduate student work in their program by December 1, 2006. These will be posted to the CUTLA web site as a page on Graduate Program Rubrics. It might be helpful for departments to examine the various rubrics and use these as models for their own rubrics or revised rubrics.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.