Wright College Program/Discipline Assessment Midyear Update

Program/Discipline: VPA/ Speech & Music	Coordinator: Ismail Mehmeti
	VPA Department, Assessment members responsible:
	Speech: Joseph Knudsen/Maria Jaskot-Inclan
	Music: Ismail Mehmeti
	Art: Rory Leonard
	Architecture: Christine Marriott
	Commedia: Johannah Silva
Date: 11/16/07	Department Chair: Maria Jaskot-Inclan, Dave Nurnberger

Assessment Plan to Date

Completely describe all actions that have occurred since August 2007 with respect to your department's Assessment Plan.

Attach any relative documents (rubrics, surveys, other assessment tools).

Speech 101: Students prepare a presentation involving power-point. They create the presentation from scratch and are forced to navigate the software and learn its various functions. Also, they are taught to use the online resources that the library offers, such as Academic Search Premier, to become more efficient in access magazine, newspaper and journal articles.

Music 121: Use of Blackboard/discussion board, announcements, Syllabus, handouts and terms for quizzes/exams are given in the course documents. At least 90% of the students in Music 121 Successfully participated and posted their answers on the discussion board. Students were encouraged to send their term papers via e-mail, as attachments. 50% sent them successfully, while the others brought hard copies to class and a small group of 5-10%, have not turned them in yet. Students are also encouraged to view their progress (grade) for the course on blackboard. Therefore the number of students asking for their score has reduced significantly.

Architecture 121: Emphasis has been placed on documenting student work digitally. When drawings are produced without the use of computer software, students are required to use scanning equipment to archive the work. A scanner and pc was set up adjacent to the studio. A tutorial, guides the students through the process of producing the digital images. Once scanned, the work is loaded to individual portfolios located on Blackboard.

Communications Media 161: The actions for our assessment plan for this class thus far have involved scanning early work involving First Contact Sheets & Photo-grams, mid-semester Assignment examples, and (upcoming) Final Photo Essay photo examples. Students will also have the opportunity to work with Photoshop as a photo-manipulation tool for their last Photo Essay project. Te project will be documented, if there are enough students who opt for this method. Otherwise, we intend to demonstrate student learning and progress through the sequence of various assignments throughout the semester.

	Art 131: Students are in the process of learning how to use a digital camera and record their work in a chronological manner in order to produce the beginnings of an E Portfolio. The digital images are being sent to the students' email addresses through a jpeg format. In addition, the Art department is producing a CD, which will document student work in a chronological manner demonstrating growth in art skills and the use of art materials.
Are there any obstacles to the implementation of the plan that the Assessment Committee should know about or can assist with?	Some students do not have a computer in their homes, others do not know how to use blackboard. -An obstacle we have encountered is deciding how much to document. There is a big volume of work and we would like at this time to track perhaps a few (around three) students' progress and scan their entire body of work for the semester. In future, we may opt to do a comprehensive assessment of all of the students' progress.
	Visual and Performing Arts department is and umbrella which includes five different disciplines. It is a privilege and a bit of a challenge, bur do-able preparing a report and putting all of these together in one report.
	Should we need assistance, we will humbly ask the assessment committee for help.

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Timeline for Second Half

Month	Assessment	Assessment Plan
	Coordinator events	
December '07		
January '08		
February '08	Assess Com. Mtg. 2/15 S101, 10:00 am	
March '08		
April '08	Assess. Com. Mtg. 4/18 S101, 10:00 am	
May '08	Data collected and compiled, conclusion and suggestions for next year; report submitted	
Summer '08	Assess Com. Mtg. TBA	