The Assurance of Learning (AoL) Committee met on November 12, 2008. Those attending were: Kathy Brook (ex-officio); Liz Ellis; Randy McFerrin; Greg Roth (chair); Jim Shannon; and Kelly Tian.

Kathy Brook distributed a list of our learning goals along with her attempt to deduce learning objectives from the rubrics used in assessment. It was agreed that the functional area representatives will confirm that those learning objectives are correct or will provide alternative learning objectives.

Greg Roth provided copies of the AoL report format for the committee members and reminded all members that the components of the report must be submitted to the committee chair by the functional area representatives by July 15 each year. (A report to the spring convocation by the AoL Committee is no longer required.)

Greg also provided an update concerning the AoL documentation which should be submitted to Kathy each year for inclusion in the AoL notebook she maintains.

Minutes of the meeting of March 14, 2008 were distributed by Greg and approved as circulated.

Randy McFerrin, representing the Economics functional area, presented a proposal to change the assessment instrument and rubric being used to assess students’ abilities to develop an analytical and systematic approach to solving problems (goal 5.1). The new assessment instrument involves a macroeconomic scenario which students in ECON 304 must analyze. The standard for performance has yet to be established. A motion to approve the change passed unanimously with a request that an assessment report be submitted to the committee in spring 2009.

Greg Roth, representing the Finance functional area, also submitted a request to change its assessment instrument which is designed to measure students’ ability to apply financial decision-making in solving problems (goal 5.4). The quiz has been rewritten with the number of questions reduced to 10. Under the change finance faculty are now allowed to veto proposed assessment quiz questions. The standard for performance is unchanged and is being met by students. The quiz is administered in FIN 341. A motion to approve the change in the Finance area’s assessment instrument passed unanimously.

Liz Ellis discussed proposed changes from the BLAW faculty in the assignment used to assess students’ ability to recognize legal problems (goal 6.1). The motion to approve the BLAW area’s proposed changes passed unanimously. There was also a discussion of possible changes in the rubric to elicit more information.