LOC Minutes
Tuesday, Feb 12, from 12-1
Salish Hall 1st Floor Conference Room

Attending: M.J. Lockemy, Michelle Marshman, Lisa Finnsson, Mike Kenyon, Avis Adams, Chris Johnson, Julie Moore

Julie invited Chris Johnson to share with the LOC the larger structures emerging around accreditation as well as the accreditation process and timeline for our upcoming visit.

- Introduction to new accreditation structure: Chris started by giving an overview of the new accreditation structure and cycle.
  - 7-year cycle
  - We generate 3 reports over these 7 years with the 7th year report being the largest and most comprehensive
  - We have had this 7-year cycle condensed into 3 years for our first round so as to transition us from the old to the new cycle
  - We just finished our 7 year report and will have our visit in April
  - The new accreditation approach is more on-going and cross campus in scope. It is also tied to the strategic plan

- Ongoing structure to maintain accreditation readiness: The college is putting into place and restructuring current bodies so we are always in a process that will feed into accreditation. This will help us be constantly ready.
  - Continuous Improvement Committee: This cross campus committee is tasked with looking across the college to see if we’re compliant with accreditation. It will examine whether all of the college’s parts have documentation of how they align with the college’s strategic plan. They will dialogue about this in a cross campus level. This is a new committee that just started this year.
  - Monitoring Reports and Councils: This is an existing structure that has been revamped this year to better align with the college’s core themes (which will be the core of our accreditation measurements and reporting). These have been reduced from 8 to 4 and are each focused on a different core theme. These reports are for the Board of Trustees.
  - The work of the college: This is done by committees and work groups just as the LOC that are more focused at the micro level. Results from these groups tend to be fed back to the faculty or group they are working for, so those folks can respond by making changes based on the work completed.
  - Questions/Concerns: How can we better connect the first two groups listed with the working groups of the college? Right now they seem to be separate and not
talking with one another. This will need to change so that they are more integrated.

- Accreditation Visit: The final point Chris spoke to was the accreditation visit this spring.
  - Report is currently on Canvas and all are invited to look at it and give feedback. Chris will be making daily revisions to this based on feedback, but he’ll need to cut off that process by week’s end as the report is due to the accreditors by March 1. Any feedback that comes in after this week will be logged in an exhibit so it is recorded.
  - It is possible that the accreditors will want to speak with either the LOC Chair or the committee members. We should be able to speak about the assessment projects and practices that we’ve had ongoing.

- In closing, Chris invited further dialogue and coordination between his office and the LOC. He would like to work together to find ways to bring the LOC into the campus-wide process for accreditation more fully and is open to that collaboration with us.