



**Assessment Committee**  
**Harry S Truman College**  
*Chair – Jen Asimow*  
*Vice-Chair – Maeve Massini*  
*Secretary/Archivist - Madi Johnson*

Minutes for April 11, 2024

In attendance: Jen Asimow, Madi Johnson, Katie Ediger, Diego Baez, Andrew Kerr, Leah Page, Brandon Bumstead, Maeve Masini, Rahm Almarza, Ana King, Ritch Keitel

Apologies:

Absent: LaSandra Skinner, Edwin Whitfield, Harry Sdralis

1) Call to order at 2:03 PM.

2) Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2024. Diego motioned to approve the minutes. Brandon seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3) Chair's Updates -

A. Co-Curricular Updates - Jen described the template and process developed for co-curricular assessment plans. A template was developed, and each co-curricular leader will receive an email on 8 consecutive Mondays with a link to the template and instructions for completing each step. See the links below for more information.

[Email Messages](#)

[Co-Curricular Template](#)

B. Nominations for the Executive Committee (Vote for the Executive Committee at the next meeting)

Everyone's term on the Executive Committee, except Madi Johnson ends at the end of the spring semester. Katie Ediger nominated the slate for renewal. We will vote at our next meeting April 25<sup>th</sup>.

C. Major Documents – Review the [Committee Charge and By-Laws](#) and be prepared to offer feedback prior to the next meeting.

Our equity statement has been added, but we need to vote on the entire charge. Send edits/ideas/comments to Madi by **Tuesday, April 23 to be approved at the meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>**.

D. 4-Phase Studies – Completed studies need to be forwarded to Madi to be posted on the Assessment Website. Jen wants each department liaison to choose the completed studies that are approved to be uploaded to the website.

Week # 12 – April 11th	Nominations for the Executive Committee Review Major Documents – offer editing suggestions
Week # 14 – April 22 - April 26	Distribute the Assessment Newsletter Vote on Executive Committee Vote on the Critical Thinking Survey

4) Department/Unit Level Assessment Updates/Report - Katie Ediger discussed the library's 4-Phase Study. Katie developed an on-line tutorial for use with the Education and Human Development and Family Studies Department, in particular, students in on-line Child Development courses to support

6) General Education Updates/Report-Brandon Bumstead

Vote on the Critical Thinking Survey Open-Ended Questions—We did not vote on this during our 4/11 meeting. Jen and Brandon are going to go back and edit, and we will send prior to our next meeting to be reviewed. Please read them before the next meeting so we can vote on them.

Beliefs

1. What do you believe are the essential components of critical thinking? Explain... (with a scenario?)
2. How do you perceive the role of critical thinking in the broader educational experience of college students?
3. How do students benefit from developing strong critical thinking abilities?
4. How have your perceptions of the importance of critical thinking evolved over time?

Practices

1. Imagine you have been nominated as “Teacher of the Year” by your colleagues. As a part of the process, you are asked to showcase one extraordinary example of a critical thinking opportunity you regularly offer to your students. What does it look like?
2. Describe an experience that you have had in a classroom that informs your teaching.

### Barriers

1. What do you perceive is the primary barrier to effectively teaching critical thinking in college classrooms?
2. How do you believe institutional factors impact the teaching of critical thinking skills?
3. In your experience, what obstacles do students commonly face when trying to engage in critical thinking, and how do you address these challenges?
4. What support or resources do you think are necessary to overcome barriers to teaching critical thinking effectively?

### 7) Sub-Committee Work Sub-Committee Work

Edit the Newsletter articles in small groups

Edit the Effective Communication Report in small groups

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.