Committee Membership
Anne Allen (Fall semester) Gil Atnip, Carolyn Babione (03-04 chair), Mary Anne Baker, Donna Dahlgren, Patrick Daly (Spring semester), Jan Fleischer, Christina Gritton (student representative), Tom Keefe, Nancy Totten, Mimi McKay, Larry Miles. The committee included six new members this year to include representation from each academic program: Arts and Letters, Business, Education, Library, Natural Science, Nursing, and Social Sciences as well as three ex-officio committee members (Atnip, Baker, Miles).

Conducted Meetings
Meetings were held on 9/17, 10/7, 10/28, 11/19, 2/19, 3/16, 4/30. Minutes were recorded by Babione and archived for future reference.

Reporting System
The reporting system used to quantify progress made by programs was reviewed and modifications suggested to OIRA. Discussions included: 1) how OIRA could make public the report such as posting reports on a website, and 2) what strategies to use to prompt programs not complying with requests for program assessment. Possible options for compliance included funding, reward structures, resource allocations, and administrative action against programs. OIRA continues to work proactively with programs requesting assistance and will continue to schedule meetings with all programs in need of assistance to document assessment initiatives.

Review of Program Reports
The committee reviewed final program evaluations from 01-02 and several drafts for 02-03 program evaluations. Committee members suggested additional comments and details for the OIRA reporting. The final scoring grid reports will be sent to the deans and program coordinators within the next few weeks. Most of the programs have either submitted reports or are working with OIRA for additional assistance in aligning program assessment with the campus initiative. OIRA provided updates of program assessments:

- Several programs are doing extremely well (Fine Arts, Political Science, Nursing) with 3’s and 4’s on the scoring rubric.
- A growing number of programs have increased their understanding of the campus assessment initiative. Improvements are especially noted with programs interacting with OIRA to refine their plans.
- Several programs turned in the 02-03 report without addressing the weaknesses noted or lacking a clearly articulated cycle of continuous improvement.
- Several programs have not turned in an assessment report and will need extensive assistance. At least one program reports that the assessment requests are being viewed as extracurricular and compensation should be provided.
- OIRA is working with Business, Education, Music, Biology, Computer Science, Chemistry, and Math to strengthen data gathering and efficiency of assessment systems.
• Geosciences, History, Theatre, and Philosophy have not responded to the request to submit assessment documents and no request for OIRA assistance has been made. General Studies has filed a report and is currently working on developing an improved plan.
• Baker has compiled a report for MLS to respond to.
• Physics does not have a degree program and no meeting has been arranged with them.

Assessment Support
The committee, with the large number of new membership, spent much of its time discussing and clarifying the role of the committee and responsibilities of support to OIRA. AAC also provided support and advice to the committee members regarding their academic program assessment initiatives. Committee members shared initiatives in their units, assessment information obtained from conferences, and professional literature on assessment. Assessment materials housed in ILTE were shared with the committee and several texts were discussed.

Suggested Goals For 2004-2005
The committee tentatively set the following goals for 2004-2005:
  1) Every program at IUS will have a plan with substantial implementation related to at least one goal that includes the feedback loop for 04-05.
  2) A website will highlight program overviews.
  3) Assessment resources will be reviewed with particular attention to continuing education projects.
  4) General Ed. will be asked to report to the AAC.

Report submitted by Carolyn Babione