Report to IU Northwest Council February 9, 2010
AQIP Systems Appraisal Feedback Report

Next steps:
I. “AQIP needs a formal response (letter or email) from your institution’s CEO acknowledging receipt of the Feedback Report within two weeks. But AQIP also recognizes the dangers in asking an institution to respond so quickly. Two weeks will not begin to provide you with the time you need to hold meetings with your faculty and staff to discuss why the Appraisal team might have formed the impressions it did. Therefore, it may be prudent to postpone writing a defensive response; a simple “We received the report and are studying it” fulfills everyone’s obligations under federal policies. You can add a more thoughtful response later to your institution’s permanent file, so providing a perfunctory one now is fine.”

Proposed Response:
IU Northwest received its 2010 Systems Appraisal Feedback Report attached to an e-mail dated February 9, 2010 from Mary Green. We will be studying this report carefully and determining the best ways for us to use this feedback in our continuous quality improvement efforts.

II. “At your next Strategy Forum your institution will be sharing the fruits of these internal discussions with other veteran AQIP institutions, eager to learn how others are using their feedback effectively to shape strategies and drive additional improvement. If you have not already registered for your next Strategy Forum and you do not have information on how to do so, please contact Babatunde Alokolaro (balokolaro@hlcommission.org) so he can get you the information you need to register and to prepare. Our website, www.AQIP.org/StrategyForum/ describes the goals and objectives of Creating the Climate for Continuous Improvement and the dates this Strategy Forum, intended exclusively for advanced AQIP institutions, is scheduled.”

Response:
Date of the next Strategy Forum is in May (AQIP doesn’t suggest this for us and I agree) and then one in about October and one in November (dates not set yet).
Who will attend?
Preparatory information and documents at (A lot of “homework” required and due before the Forum):

III. “The Systems Appraisal team worked hard to identify both institutional strengths (marked SS or S) and opportunities for improvement (marked OO or O). Please examine both so that your institution can celebrate and build on its strengths and understand and explore its growth opportunities. To ensure you do so, we want you to write up three of your strengths and post them on our Innovation Exchange within the next eight weeks. Celebrate Your Strengths, enclosed, explains how to do this.”

Response:
In the Executive Summary for each AQIP category (pp. 1-9), the Appraisal Team had strengths to report for each category as well as suggestions for continued or new attention. Additionally, The Systems Appraisal Team concluded that “IUN Northwest has presented evidence that it complies with each of the Five Criteria for Accreditation and each of their Core Components.” We need to determine which strengths to highlight. As soon as the AVCIER is hired we will convene the Working Group Chairs to begin an evaluation of the Feedback Report and decide how to proceed.

IV. Action Projects: Need to retire General Education; retire or update Assessment; retire or update Measuring Institutional Effectiveness.
Possible new APs:
- Degree Audits
- Freshman Experience
- Something from the Feedback Report that commands attention (group-think needed)
- Something around the AVCIER office
- Online new course/new program approval process
- Peer review of reappointment process, etc, etc, etc.