Welcome to New Members
Penny Poplin Gosetti welcomed new members to the University Assessment Committee. The new members to the committee are Jamie Barlowe (Languages, Literature, and Social Sciences), Brian Ashburner (Natural Science and Mathematics), David Hale (Undergraduate Student Senate), and Barbara Schneider (Learning Ventures).

University Assessment Report
Barbara Kopp Miller stated that the report committee met last Monday and members were assigned pieces to write for the final report. There is still one piece missing; the report is complete aside from that piece. The report will be sent to Penny Poplin Gosetti and Ron Opp. The report will also be sent to the members of the University Assessment Committee and feedback will be discussed at the next meeting.

Core Curriculum
Steve LeBlanc gave an update on the status of the core curriculum. Previously the core was assessed based on forty-one learning outcomes. This number has been decreased to five core competencies. The President would like to see approximately fifty courses designated as core courses (at present there are 252 courses). Ideally, this would be achieved by having all present core courses apply to be a part of the new set of courses. An overview was given about the recent trip by several faculty members and administrators to the Higher Learning Commission specifically to work on the core and to create an action plan for improvement. Several members mentioned that the focus of presenting this action plan needs to be based on student learning and how to make the core relevant. Steve will give a presentation to the Faculty Senate on March 21st regarding the action plan, as he was unable to get through the bulk of the information in his presentation yesterday. The committee came to a consensus that they will meet again next week to allow Steve to give the presentation and to solicit feedback before taking it to Faculty Senate again.

Learning Ventures
Barb Schneider asked for any input on providing workshops regarding assessment. Individuals stated that workshops should be advertised at least two weeks prior to being held, that they should be on different days of the week, so that more faculty can fit them in around their teaching schedules, and Penny Poplin Gosetti asked that before any recommendations on assessment are given in the workshops that they be presented to the committee. There was also some confusion about Epsilen (who is using it and how to do so). Penny suggested that at the next regular meeting of the University Assessment Committee, the group should be updated on future releases coming from Epsilen with regards to these concerns.
Collegiate Learning Assessment
Sunday Griffith updated the committee on the CLA. This is an online exam administered to 100 incoming freshman students each fall and to 100 native graduating seniors in the spring over the core competencies to see the value added by a UT education. The exam is 75-90 minutes long. While administration to freshmen is easy (it is given during their college composition classes), obtaining the 100 seniors needed is a challenge. Last year only 57 students took the assessment. This year, individuals from Institutional Research are going into various classrooms to solicit participants. Individuals who participate will receive a $10 gift card to Subway and be registered to win a $100 gift card to Best Buy. Sunday stated she has also enlisted the help of Undergraduate Student Senate member Pat Harvey to hand out invitations to take the assessment. Penny Poplin Gosetti urged members of the committee to recruit participants from their own colleges. It was asked why the senior assessment is not administered during a senior-level course like the freshman assessment is done. The issue is that senior-level courses are not long enough, the individuals are not from various majors, and not all of the students would be native students. The suggestion was made to approach Greek organizations to participate as it would offer students with a variety of majors.

Assessment Report Letters
Penny Poplin Gosetti informed the committee that the report letters will be going out this Friday.

Assessment and Accreditation at UT Documents
Penny asked that everyone read the documents provided and come to the April meeting with suggestions on what we need to work on.

A special meeting of the University Assessment Committee will be held on Wednesday March 23rd at 1pm in Gillham Hall 3100C.