Dr. Moon asked the group to be thinking about the need to meet more often than twice an academic year as we are focusing on assessment issues.

1. Update on Online Research Collection (Dietz)

The currently enrolled students in the three pilot groups—educational technology, educational psychology, and counseling psychology—were notified before spring break about the new online research productivity system. Another message was sent to these students on March 17th. There has been some activity in the system. Earlier Dr. Moon and Kathy Dietz discussed a template for reporting data which will be distributed soon to department heads for feedback. All students will be asked to participate in this online collection process Fall 2008.

2. Discussion of Graduate Program Assessment Systems (Moon)

The group discussed the learning outcomes report due in May to the Graduate School. In completing the report, the question will be “What is the Higher Learning Commission expecting?” Our programs will need to focus on outcomes rather than process data. This year we will keep the report simple and impacting so it will enable program improvement.

Discussion followed regarding documenting the four learning outcomes of graduate students:

1) Identify and conduct original research, scholarship or creative endeavors
   --Scholarly productivity collected via students through the online system

2) Effectively communicating the field of study
   --Overlaps with research in terms of publications/presentations

3) Think critically and creatively and solve problems in their field of study
   --Prelims for some program areas
   --Dissertation
   --Portfolio/journal for master’s students

4) Conduct research in an ethical and responsible manner
   --Workshops attended that cover this topic
   --IRB training completed
Perhaps our master’s students would be given an online training with a related assessment covering learning outcome #4--Conduct research in an ethical and responsible manner. Richard Frisbie will check to see if there is an example of this type of online training and assessment. He also will look for examples of codes of ethics for teachers and other school professionals.

A possible topic for a summer retreat might be the ethical learning outcome: Is the College of Education doing an adequate job of teaching ethics?

Deadlines for the next academic year:
October 15--Metrics for each learning outcome for the departments
February 15--Specific data for each of the outcomes from the Areas of Specialization to department heads
April 15--Draft reports to Sidney Moon from the department heads

3. Discussion of Carnegie Study on Ph.D. Programs (Moon)

Dr. Moon shared with the group information regarding the Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate, a project to examine doctoral education in six fields, one of which was education. The initiative has produced two books and generated quite a bit of interest and discussion among colleges of education at research universities that are members of CADREI (Council of Academic Deans from Research Education Institutions). One of the recommendations of the initiative is to clearly differentiate between research doctorates and doctorates focused on practitioners. Discussion followed on how we might improve our doctoral level graduate programs. Most present favored the research doctorate model, but felt that more consistent funding would be needed to implement this model.

The group was supportive of the suggestion to sponsor conversations on our doctoral programs next year, with the assistance of external speakers who have had experience in building strong doctoral programs.

4. Update on Advanced Program Task Force (Moon)

Dr. Jerry Krockover is heading this task force. A report will be available in July, 2008.

5. Update on Summer Program Task Force (Moon)

Ideas were generated from the earlier summer school retreat. The COE Leadership Team will meet in the future to discuss.