2010-2011 Assessment Context

During the year the Department of Anthropology held meetings that covered a variety of topics related to assessment and having implications for programmatic changes as a result of these discussions.

1. The courses in biological anthro developed last year were offered and provided students with new dimensions in that subfield.

2. The department faculty developed an undergraduate advising system, in which faculty will be assigned some undergrads to connect with, no later than the junior year. This system may take approximately six months to implement.

3. The department considered its commitment to the intellectual foundations program, discussing whether or not to convert its introductory course into a writing across the curriculum offering.

4. The faculty discussed issues of DFWs and retention. It’s general consensus that once students arrive in the anthro major they complete it.

5. The faculty developed a cell phone and laptop policy, due to faculty concerns that many students felt entitled to use these for their own purposes whenever and wherever they deemed it appropriate.

6. The department met with assessment director, Gail Wisan, and held a lengthy discussion about potential methods for assessment of programs.

7. We reviewed assessment concepts, in particular the potential for rubrics and individually meeting with students to assess their progress in the department.