Provost’s Advisory Committee on Assessment and Accountability

Context
Throughout the academic year there are on-going assessment and accountability initiatives underway within each division of the university for monitoring the health of the institution and for future planning purposes. The importance of these initiatives is emphasized by the fact that our university accrediting body, the Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), specifically requires that Eastern have a coordinated plan for data collection to inform future planning and decision making.

The Division of Academic Affairs is charged with monitoring and coordinating a number of university assessment and accountability measures that include:

- end-of-program assessments;
- the collection, analysis, and dissemination of survey data;
- the reporting of the state accountability measures and enrollment data;
- the statewide “senior studies” on writing, information/technology literacy, critical thinking, and quantitative and symbolic reasoning; and

These and other assessment and accountability functions will be organized within the context of a comprehensive university-wide assessment plan.

To provide guidance to the Provost, and other members of the President’s staff, on the continued development of policies and practices related to assessment and accountability, both within Academic Affairs and across the university, I am establishing a standing committee on Assessment and Accountability.

Committee Membership
The Committee membership includes:

- One (1) member from the Division of Business and Finance
- One (1) member from the Division of Student Affairs
- One (1) member from the Division of Academic Affairs
- One (1) member from the Office of Institutional Research
- Two (2) College deans or their designates
- Three (3) members of faculty [selected nominations from the Faculty Organization]

The Provost will appoint the Committee chair

Charge to the Committee
As an Advisory Committee member, you will meet on a regular basis throughout the academic year to provide counsel to the Provost on matters associated with the many dimensions of assessment and accountability. Initial committee appointments will range from 1 to 3 years to ensure continuity of membership. Members may be re-appointed for additional terms.

Specifically, the Committee is asked to:

- Review all current EWU assessment and accountability initiatives for their comprehensiveness, interdependence, and applicability for meeting the evolving multi-dimensional needs of the university and the goals of the Academic Strategic Plan;
- Develop the framework for a comprehensive EWU Assessment and Accountability Plan that addresses the goals and objectives of the plan,
describes the data collection and analysis process, and outlines the ways in which this data is to be used for informing decision making; and

- Suggest revisions and/or additions to current policy and practice to complement the university's evolving Strategic Plan, and to meet the needs of the Comprehensive Plan.