Members in Attendance:

I. Introductions
Dr. Susan Perry opened the meeting by asking each of the members in attendance to introduce themselves. She expressed her enthusiasm at returning to Kent State University to work with the Accreditation, Assessment and Learning staff as well as collaborating with the members of ACAA.

II. Approval of December minutes
Minutes for the December meeting sent out prior to the meeting. The minutes were discussed in the meeting and approved with no changes.

III. Great Colleges to Work For results
Jennifer Abate shared an update on this administration of the Great Colleges To Work For (GCTWF) survey. A handout displaying the topline results from the 2016 survey was distributed to members. She shared that Kent State has participated in the GCTWF survey since 2008 and while there are a total of twelve categories to be recognized in, Kent State has only been recognized in one category for seven of the last eight years of participation. Jennifer related that there are three additional categories where Kent State is close to being recognized and having a better response rate may help to achieve recognition in those areas. For this administration, participation is the survey is being emphasized. The handouts were briefly discussed and questions were raised pertaining to the contents of the different recognition categories. This will be addressed at the next ACAA meeting.

IV. CLA+ update
Hollie Simpson gave a brief overview of the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA+). Some background information regarding the CLA+ was shared as well as changes that
were to be made for the current spring 2017 administration. The scheduled dates of the CLA+ sessions were given and all members were encouraged to steer any senior students they have contact with to the CLA+. Questions were raised concerning the distinction of students at regional campuses and their eligibility to take the CLA+. Valerie Samuel from Institutional Research helped to clarify the criteria that are used to verify a student’s eligibility.

V. Accreditation and assessment spotlight (Paul Gaston)
Dr. Paul Gaston spoke about his recent trip to Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). He relayed to the ACAA members some serious issues that the field of accreditation may face within the coming years. He sees two vastly opposing sides to the issue of accreditation and foresees conflict in the future. Dr. Gaston gave six main points that potentially could be controversial or lead to conflict if current proposed legislation is passed. He ended his comments by explaining how Kent State’s regional accredditor (Higher Learning Commission, HLC) could be affected. ACAA members posed questions in response to Dr. Gaston’s comments which resulted in productive discussion.

VI. Subcommittee update
a. Rubric subcommittees
   ▪ Assessment plan rubric
     1. Members from this subcommittee reported that they were waiting for information and results from other subcommittees to have continuity in their work, but a final report had been submitted.
   ▪ Assessment findings rubric
     1. A rubric has been produced and submitted to the office of Accreditation, Assessment and Learning (AAL) for review.
   ▪ Operational plan rubric
     1. The subcommittee stated that they were refining some current ideas and had recently received feedback that would allow them to submit the rubric to AAL in the next couple of days.

b. Timeline and process subcommittee
   ▪ The subcommittee reported that there was a halt in their progress but they would circle back to some information that was shared with them in December and proceed from there.

c. Open Pathway communication plan subcommittee
   ▪ The members plan to touch base and put their thoughts and conversation into written form and submit a report within the week.

VII. Announcements
Dr. Gaston related that he will be attending an upcoming, exclusive meeting being convened by the College of Law at the University of Pennsylvania to discuss accreditation. He plans to bring back updates that he will share with the committee.

Kathy Spicer gave a brief overview of the way Taskstream is laid out to explain each subcommittee’s tasks. She plans to send the final drafts of the rubrics to the committee at large.
VIII. Subcommittee work time

IX. Next meeting – March 7, 2017, Library 222

Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Susan Perry