The seventh meeting of the Campus Assessment Network (CAN) opened with welcomes and introductions. The following new participants were welcomed:
Sonja Herigon, Paul Prabhaker (College of Business), Michael Stang (Housing & Dining), Craig Marcus (Housing & Dining).

Members present:
Brad Bond (Graduate School), Angela Branson (Residential Life, Housing & Dining), Sandi Carlisle (Recreation Services), Michelle Bringas (Asian American Center), Shevawn Eaton (ACCESS), Sally Wakefield & Rowene Linden (College of Business), Cassandra Maxwell-Simmons (College of Engineering), Rich Holly (College of Visual and Performing Arts), Amy Franklin (Student Affairs), Carrie Zack (University Office of Teacher Certification), Carolinda Douglass, Amy Swanson & Karyn Higgs (Assessment Services).

Douglass announced the publication of the fall issue of Toolkit, NIU’s assessment newsletter, available at [http://www.niu.edu/assessment/Toolkit/vol6_ish1.pdf](http://www.niu.edu/assessment/Toolkit/vol6_ish1.pdf). The next issue will include an interview with Rich Holly, Associate Dean of Visual & Performing Arts, CAN members are encouraged to submit ideas and articles for upcoming Toolkit issues.

The CAN purpose and direction for the upcoming year were reviewed. The purpose statement can be viewed at [http://www.niu.edu/assessment/committees/network.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/assessment/committees/network.shtml)

Douglass discussed several initiatives and activities aimed at enhancing assessment at NIU:
- We will be sending a team to participate in the upcoming Higher Learning Commission (HLC) workshop Assessment as a Core Strategy. The team including associate Deans from several colleges and the Director of Assessment of Students Affairs will be focused on improving the effectiveness of assessment on campus.
- The Office of Assessment Services will host a half day assessment workshop this spring, which will highlight assessment on campus. The date of the workshop and details about speakers and topics will be available soon.
- Speaker Linda Suskie will present a full day assessment workshop on February 22nd.
- Amy Swanson from the Office of Assessment Services will be sending a survey to CAN participants assessing how well members think the group is meeting its objectives, how useful it is, and future areas members would like to see the group focus on.
Amy Franklin presented on Assessment Efforts in Student Affairs. The powerpoint for the presentation is available at http://www.niu.edu/assessment/committees/CAN/AssessmentinStudentAffairs_CAN presentation_September 2007.pdf  Franklin’s presentation discusses how student affairs units identify and assess learning outcomes. Franklin shared resources and templates used in student affairs such as the Assessment Strategy Grid http://www.stuaff.niu.edu/stuaff/assessment/index.shtml, sample learning outcomes and a planning & assessment worksheet which can be viewed at http://www.stuaff.niu.edu/stuaff/Intranet/planning/FY08AnnualPlanningWorkbook_Template.xls.

A topic was determined for the November meeting. We will discuss how the strategic plan will affect assessment on campus. The Strategic Planning Task Force Report and resources related to implementing the strategic plan can be found at http://www.niu.edu/strategicplan. Additionally, this year’s State of the University Address by President Peters highlights the strategic plan and can be read or viewed at http://www.niu.edu/president/.

Wakefield asked about the status of a description of assessment at NIU to be included in the graduate and undergraduate student catalogs. The catalog text (see attachment) has been approved to be included in the 2008-2009 catalogs.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 7th 2007 at 9:00 a.m., and will be held in Campus Life 114. (Rm 114 is located inside Rm 110 -the Honor’s Office).