The current two members of the Spanish area, Javier Villarreal and Cristina Ortiz and myself met from 10:00-11:00 in the Dean’s Conference Room, and then moved to the coffee shop by the library to finish our meeting from 11:00-12:30 on Friday, February 13, 2009 to discuss the WEAVE assessment tool. All changes to the WEAVE instrument were agreed to by all present. As chair, I guided the group discussion and offered suggestions, but I left the decisions to Drs. Villarreal and Ortiz. One issue that complicated our talks was the fact that we are currently short one person. Dr. Jesus Rosales left at the end of last academic year and we currently have a one-year visiting professor, Dr. Carmen Parron who was not part of these negotiations.

What follows is a detailed list of our talk.

Outcome Objective 1: Demonstrate Proficiency in Spanish
The three of us agreed that we should keep this item and its measures as they are currently stated. Currently, however, the only students being measured for this outcome objective are those taking the TExES or TOPT exams. It was agreed that we would administer the TOPT to non-teaching graduates as well in order to bring the practice more in line with the wording of this document. We will ask for money to have Dr. Villarreal update his current TOPT training because he took the course over a decade ago. In this way, we can administer the test ourselves and we will not have to send the results outside the institution to get results. This is particularly important because at the present time we are only talking about four or so graduates per semester who are not currently being tested. We also request an additional $1,000 per year stipend so that Dr. Villarreal can administer, grade and report these exam results. [[HOW MUCH WOULD IT COST US TO SEND THESE EXAMS OFF CAMPUS?]]
We will change the priority for this item to “high.”

Outcome Objective 2: Understanding Spanish Speaking Countries
We agreed to change the measure to read: We expect a 75% pass rate on the TExES, TOPT by all students as these exams measure more than language proficiency. They also measure knowledge of culture. We agreed to add a new measure: “75% of all students in civilization classes will earn a grade of 75 or better on the final exam.” The final exam in the civilization classes also measures student knowledge of the cultural, linguistic, and literary aspects of Spanish-speaking countries. The only problem with this measure is that due to faculty limitations we can only offer this two course sequence once every two years. We need an additional faculty member (bringing the area to four total) in order to offer at least one more civilization section in off years. Because of the importance of this item for the program, we rate the priority high because of the need for a new line.

Outcome Objective 3: Teach and/or Continue Studies at the Graduate Level
We agreed that the items that this outcome objective sought to measure were not necessarily relevant for the area’s goals at this time. It will be pulled.
**Outcome Objective 4: Increase Enrollments**  
The group voted to change the wording of this outcome objective to read “Increase enrollments in Spanish 2000, 3000, and 4,000 level courses.” We also agreed to change the achievement target to read “We expect to achieve a 2% increase in Spanish majors each year.” In order to provide adequate coverage, however, we need to add a new line.

**Outcome Objective 5: Good Teaching**  
We all agreed that this item and its measures were fine as they currently stand.

**Outcome Objective 6: Faculty Creative Activity**  
We agreed to keep this item but change the measure to read as follows: “Two-thirds of faculty will either publish an article in a refereed journal, write a book chapter, publish a book review, submit a grant, attend a grant-writing workshop, attend and/or make a conference presentation, write a book review, or create some other scholarly product during the year.”

**Outcome Objective 7: Develop M.A. Program in Spanish**  
All participants decided that we should drop this outcome objective because the faculty is too small to serve the needs of the core, majors, minors, and teachers, much less a graduate program. To acquire a Master’s program at this point would only result in fewer Ph.D. faculty teaching the introductory courses. It is vital to keep as many full-time, tenure-track professors in these lower level classes because studies indicate that this increases majors in the field.

**Outcome Objective 8: Provide Broad and Thorough Coverage of the Discipline**  
The group agreed to keep this item and its measures and add a new one: study abroad. We would like to see at least two to five students per year study abroad to immerse themselves in the culture and language of a Spanish-speaking country. Having such a program, we hope, will increase enrollments.