**Communication 111 High School Concurrent Assessment Plan and Results**

**(2008-2009)**

**Rick Armstrong**

**Director of the WSU Basic Public Speaking Course**

Assessment Plan and Measured Results

A common Final Exam over textbook content is scored by the Social Science Research Lab at WSU for all sections of Comm. 111, including the high school concurrent sections. In addition, scores on the Policy Persuasive Speech (94-100=A; 89-93=A-; 86-88=B+; 80-85=B; 77-79=B-; 74-76= C+; 70-73=C; 66-69=C-; 62-65=D+; 57-61=D; 54-56=D-; and below 54=F) are seen as an indication of achievement since this speech is the capstone speech in the course. For comparison purposes, composite scores of WSU students for the Final Exam/Policy Persuasive Speech during the 2008-2009 academic year are provided below, followed by the composite scores on the same measures by high school concurrent students:

**WSU Students (non-concurrent)**

Final Exam Average: 76% Policy Persuasive Speech Average: 87%

**High School Concurrent Students**

Final Exam Average: 86% Policy Persuasive Speech Average: 88%

Results indicate that Communication 111 High School Concurrent Students are exceeding the achievement levels of regular WSU college students on both the Final Exam and the Policy Persuasive Speech. These are considered to be scores meeting expectations for the course (66-88).

Assessment Plan and Faculty Development

Concurrent instructors are invited to attend selected segments of Comm. 750C each August as their interests and needs dictate. Comm. 750C is the course that prepares new GTA’s and instructors to teach Comm. 111-Public Speaking. Several times during the semester, the Comm. 111 Director consults with concurrent instructors via phone and e-mail over course related matters. Concurrent instructors also have the Student Perception of Teaching Effectiveness instrument administered in their Comm. 111 classes each semester, although they are the only ones who see results.

Unfortunately, it has not proven feasible for concurrent instructors to attend Comm. 750C the first two weeks in August since they have orientation/in-service commitments in their respective school districts during the same time. Consequently, we have discussed other possible options for continuing development of concurrent instructors. Thus far, one high school concurrent instructor has expressed interest in getting together with other high school concurrent instructors to exchange ideas during the semester. We will continue to discuss options.

Assessment Plan Notes

High School Concurrent Instructors use the same Comm. 111 textbook, course Handbook, syllabus, Curriculum Guide, Midterm and Final Exam, and all other common assignments and other requirements as students taking the course from WSU instructors.