The Data Analysis Committee (DAC) was formed during the spring 2005 semester. The concept was initially developed by Dr. Finnie Murray during the summer 2004 semester. Glen Powell, Faculty Assistant to the SVCAASL, was charged with developing the proposal for the development of the DAC. The initial draft was developed during June, 2004. The proposal was presented to the Faculty Senate for review and input during the fall 2004 semester. Revisions were made to the proposal based on Faculty Senate recommendations. The final draft was approved during the spring semester of 2005.

Invitations for membership nominations were made to the Deans of the colleges and the library and the President of the Faculty Senate. The nominations were approved or accepted by Dr. Murray. Members appointed to the DAC include:

- Donna Alden, FAH
- Timothy J Burkink, B&T
- John Damon, Fac. Senate
- Mary Daake, Acad. Advising
- Larry L Hardesty, Library
- Lois Flagstad, Student Life
- Daryl Kelley, NSS
- Richard Miller, Grad. College
- Ed Scantling, COE
- Jon P Wheeler, Student Life
- Gail Zeller, Student Life
- Glen Powell, Chair, Acad. Affairs

The initial meeting of the DAC was April 5, 2005

Summary of April 5, 2005 Meeting:
The agenda of the first meeting was to introduce the members, review the charges of the DAC, and discuss the possibility of using customized comparisons of the National Student Survey of Engagement (NSSE). The members were provided with a handout that described the charges and structure of the DAC. The potential tasks of the DAC were discussed. One of the first topics addressed was the use of the NSSE and customized comparison groups. The data analysts for the NSSE will construct customized comparison lists for participating institutions as long as there is a minimum of six institutions who administered the NSSE in the same comparison year. The analysts recommended using the latest data set which was 2004 for UNK and using participating schools from that year. The members agreed to submit ideas regarding the creation of customized comparison groups for the next meeting. The agenda for the April 19th meeting was established. The agenda included identification of the NSSE customized comparison groups and discussion of initial activities to undertake in order to meet the DAC charges.

Summary of April 19, 2005 Meeting:
The Committee agreed to have analyses done for four groups. The four groups were an aspiration group, a recruiting competition group, an athletic recruitment/competition group of Colorado/RMAC schools, and a residential hall comparison group. The Committee reviewed the NSSE participation lists to identify the schools that had participated in the NSSE for the first three groups in 2004. The first three groups were constructed. Jon Wheeler was going to try and obtain a list on the residence hall comparison list so that the committee could try and construct an NSSE comparison list at a later date. The comparison schools that were identified for the three lists submitted for NSSE analyses profiles include:
Aspiration Group:
University of Wisconsin-Eau Clair
University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse
Truman State University
Washburn University
Appalachian State University
University of North Carolina-Wilmington

Recruitment Competitors:
University of Nebraska-Omaha
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Chadron State College
Fort Hays State University
South Dakota State University
Emporia State University
Northwest Missouri State University

Colorado Athletic/Recruitment Competitors:
Regis University
Adams State College
University of Colorado at Denver
University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Fort Lewis College

The analyses are expected be completed by the NSSE analysts around July 1, 2005. The customized analyses will compare UNK’s student responses on the NSSE to the mean scores of the schools on each comparison list. This comparison will illustrate the levels of engagement of UNK students against students at schools we aspire to be like, those we recruit against for enrollment at UNK, and those we recruit or compete against athletically because of geographic location in Colorado. The lists were modified to include schools that used the NSSE in 2004. A limitation of the comparison would be that some schools on the recruitment list such as Emporia State, South Dakota State, and Northwest Missouri State Universities are not listed by the Admissions Office as being primary competitors for UNK students. They were selected because of previous experiences noted by Committee members and they used the NSSE in 2004 and some other schools like Doane and Hastings Colleges did not. The University of Colorado at Denver is not an RMAC competitor, whereas the other schools on the list are RMAC members. The University of Colorado at Denver is in the geographic location where UNK recruits students and was included for this reason. An analysis of residence hall comparison schools will be requested when a list of those schools is submitted to the DAC chair.

The DAC requested that the chair contact campus departments and programs to update an inventory of nationally-normed assessments during the summer. The DAC can then review the inventory as a first step in August or September to determine a starting point for the initial review of assessment data.