

## ***ASSESSMENT MATTERS***

*A newsletter of the University Assessment Steering Committee to disseminate information on tools, education & training, and best practices for assessment at WMU.*

### **February 2008-Issue #3**

\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome to the third installment of Assessment Matters! Please forward this newsletter to anyone that you think may have an interest in the information contained within it. If you have any suggestions or comments or if you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact: Karen Stokes at [karen.stokes@wmich.edu](mailto:karen.stokes@wmich.edu).

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ***University Assessment Program Survey***

The University Assessment Steering Committee (UASC) is evaluating the University Assessment Program in an attempt to determine the understanding and acceptance of assessment throughout the University community. The results of this evaluation will be used to guide the future actions of the UASC. The information about the survey was disseminated via email this week and we would encourage you to take a moment to complete it. If you did not receive the email, we invite you to access the survey here: <http://survey.atis.wmich.edu/atis/Assessment.htm>. You can also elect to enter a drawing to win one of the multiple prizes being offered upon completing the survey. For questions please contact Pat Benton at: [patrick.benton@wmich.edu](mailto:patrick.benton@wmich.edu)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ***Faculty Assessment Grants***

Funding opportunities are available to pursue research on the assessment of student learning outcomes in academic affairs as well as student affairs. For more information and to view the guidelines for the 2008 submission of applications, please go to the following website: <http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/assessment/Grants/Assmt Grant Guidelines.08-09.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

#### ***Assessment Excellence Award***

The University Assessment Steering Committee has established an Assessment Excellence Award for the purpose of recognizing and showcasing outstanding efforts in the area of assessment at WMU. Criteria for selection will emphasize the demonstration of program improvements as a result of the assessment program. There are two types of recognition awards: a unit award and an individual award. For more information on the Assessment Excellence Award please see the Office of Institutional Effectiveness website at: <http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/assessment/Assessment Excellence Award 2008.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

***Workshop On Scholarship In Teaching and Learning***

Save the date! On Friday, May 30, 2008 a workshop will be held at the College of Health and Human Services to discuss scholarship in teaching and learning. Panel discussions with various presenters will be held to talk about research, teaching, learning and leadership, and how to have your work published, just to name a few of the topics. Dr. David J. Malik, professor of Chemical Education and Physical Chemistry at Indiana University/Purdue University Indianapolis, Dr. Edmund Tsang, Director of The Center for Excellence in Engineering Education at Western and Dr. Betsy Aller, professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering at Western, will be among the presenters. More information will be forthcoming in March 2008 with invitations sent to previous winners of the UASC Assessment Grants, as well as other faculty engaged in assessment related research.

\*\*\*\*\*

***Conferences***

The 2008 North Carolina State Undergraduate Assessment Symposium "Breaking Barriers: Building a Culture of Assessment " will be held April 25 - 27, 2008 in Cary, NC. For more information, see: <http://www.ncsu.edu/assessment/symposium/> Kim Ballard, Director of the Writing Center and Laura Ciccantell, Director of the College of Education Admissions and Advising Office will be presenting.

\*\*\*\*\*

***Assessment Tip***

***University assessment should be driven, monitored, and guided by faculty.*** The faculty engaged in developing and implementing curriculum are best suited to determine whether students are meeting program expectations.

\*\*\*\*\*

***LINKS***

University Assessment [www.wmich.edu/poapa/uac](http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/uac)  
Assessment Portfolio [www.iwebfolio.com/public/WMU Assessment](http://www.iwebfolio.com/public/WMU_Assessment)  
Assessment Toolbox [www.wmich.edu/poapa/assessment/toolbox/Page1](http://www.wmich.edu/poapa/assessment/toolbox/Page1)