

Memo

To: Dr. Diane Anderson, Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Timothy Greene, Provost

From: Cari Robertson, Chair, University Assessment Steering Committee

Date: June 19, 2015

Re: UASC Annual Summary

On behalf of the University Assessment Steering Committee, I am sharing a summary of our work throughout the 2014-15 academic year.

Key Accomplishments:

- We reviewed the UASC Purpose, Activities and Guidelines document as planned on a five-year cycle. Revisions include a more sustainable leadership and membership structure that integrates academic and student support units.
- A subcommittee reviewed assessment plans submitted by 12 student support units and provided consultation. UASC formally approved two new assessment plans (Residence Life and Student Activities and Leadership Programs).
- Chris Robinson (HCOB Advising), Katie Easley (CAS), and Kim Ballard (Writing Center) received the annual Unit Assessment Excellence Award for their work to develop the Bronco Study Zone.
- We evaluated the content to be requested in the upcoming Deans' reports on assessment; recommended a revised template and timeline to generate mutually useful information for departments and UASC regarding assessment of student learning in the Colleges.
- Assessment in Action subcommittee facilitated the fifth annual WMU assessment conference.
- We selected the following Assessment Grant Fellows for 2015-16:
  - Kim Ballard, "Assessing Rule-Bound Module Assisted Writing Development," Writing Center
  - Kate Bates, "Student Learning Outcomes of Involvement," Student Activities and Leadership Programs
  - Sue Caulfield, "Assessment at the College Level: Core Competencies," Dean's Office, College of Health and Human Services
  - Melissa Holman, "The Effect of Strengths-Based Assessment of College Student Persistence and Retention," Dean's Office, College of Education and Human Development
  - Denise Ross and Cynthia Pietras, "Evaluation of the Hybrid Master of Arts Program in Psychology," Psychology Department
- Dr. Sue Caulfield was elected to serve as UASC Chair 2015-16.

Your questions or suggestions are welcome as we prepare to continue our committee work in 2015-16.

Thank you for what you do to support a culture of assessment at Western Michigan University.