

Western Michigan University

Assessment Excellence Award

The University Assessment Steering Committee (UASC) has established an Assessment Excellence Award for the purpose of recognizing and highlighting outstanding efforts in the area of assessment at WMU. Assessment is defined as the systematic collection and use of the results of student learning and academic program quality to determine the achievement of goals and objectives. An outstanding assessment process is characterized by the use of the results of assessment to improve the activities being assessed. Therefore, criteria for selection will emphasize the demonstration of program improvements as a result of the assessment program.

Collaboration Award

Eligibility

The competition is open to all WMU degree awarding and learner support units that have conducted assessment of student learning and program quality in collaboration with other individuals from their own or another department, unit and/or program at WMU for the purpose of program improvement. Examples of this may include several individuals from one department, unit or program working collaboratively to improve a program, several individuals from multidisciplinary programs who are working together on assessment of a mutual program, individuals from different departments, units and/or programs who are working collaboratively on a specific program etc. Many departments, units, and programs have submitted and received UASC approval on their assessment plan(s). Though not a requirement to be eligible for this award, those that have not yet submitted an assessment plan to the UASC are encouraged to do so.

Procedure

Nominations should include the names of individuals being nominated, the departments, units, and/or programs involved, the person(s) submitting, along with a brief report highlighting improvements attributed to the assessment process, evaluation and improvement of the collaborative assessment plan, and/or other achievements that raise their assessment activities to a level of excellence.

Award Criteria

The UASC will use the following criteria as a basis for selecting the collaboration award winners:

- Evidence that the individuals have a strong commitment to assessment.
 - Evidence that assessment activities have occurred and led to program improvements.
 - Evidence that assessment data are being used to improve program quality.
 - Evidence of other exemplary assessment achievements that influence the culture of accountability at WMU.
 - Evidence that the department, unit or program assessment plan (if applicable) contains elements that are achievable, usable, and sustainable and activities are being conducted in accordance with the plan timetable.
- Nominations may include assessment reports that highlight and support the above aforementioned evidence.

Submission

Deadline for application submission in 2021 is February 26. Awards will be announced during the annual assessment conference on April 9, 2021.

Please submit your application electronically to:

Karen Stokes Chapo, Program Manager Assessment
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