

UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT STEERING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT ~ MAY 2010

Prepared by Patrick Benton UASC Chair

The purpose of this report is to highlight the major accomplishments and activities of the University Assessment Steering Committee for the 2009 – 2010 academic year. The committee membership as well as details of many of the activities, grant and award information, events, meeting minutes and much more can be found at www.wmich.edu/assessment.

Assessment Reports The deans of each college submitted an assessment report to the provost. These reports are available for review at the assessment web page. The UASC is meeting with the deans of each college to discuss their reports and to solicit input as to the effectiveness of the process and ways that the UASC can assist their college to foster assessment.

Assessment Excellence Award The annual Assessment Excellence Award was given in February. This year the award was given to a unit for their exemplary use of assessment as a tool for program improvement. The award was presented to the Bronson School of Nursing.

Assessment In Action Day The first annual Assessment In Action day was held in March. The day included several break-out sessions, presentations of research projects by the Assessment Grant fellows, and a keynote speech by Jillian Kinzie, who is the associate director of the Center for Postsecondary Research, NSSE Institute, Indiana University. The event was very successful with 80 attendees. See the assessment web page for details of this event.

Faculty Assessment Grant Four Faculty Assessment Grants were awarded for 2010-2011. The grants went to:

- Robyn Bowers, Alpha Program Coordinator, Project title: “Using LASSI to Assess Program effectiveness of the Alpha Program”
- Kim Ballard, Director of the Writing Center, Project title: “Creating a Valid and Reliable Writing Center Assessment Using Direct Measures of Student Learning”
- Sarah Summy and Special Education Faculty, Project title: “Data, Data, Data, Oh My!”
- Robert Dlouhy and David Parker, CELCIS Program, Project title: “Efficacy of the CELCIS Intensive English Program”

SoTL Publication Workshop The 2009 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Publication (SOTL) workshop was held at the College of Health and Human Services in May. Dr. Kathleen McKinney, Illinois State University, was the keynote speaker. Several presentations and break-out sessions were held. The 2010 SoTL workshop will be held on May 21st.

Rubric Contest A competition was held for Master's students to create a rubric for reviewing the future University Assessment Steering Committee Assessment Award applications. The competition was held to give graduate students an opportunity to learn how to create a rubric and help show them the importance of assessment of and for student learning and how rubrics can help with this process. There were seven interdisciplinary teams of Master's level students who created rubrics for the competition. Five doctoral students with expertise in evaluation served as expert panel members and offered guidance/assistance to the teams on creating the rubrics. Monetary awards were presented to the top three teams at the 4th annual WMU Research and Creative Activities Poster Day on April 9, 2010.

Guests and Presentations

- Dr. John Jellies, President of the Faculty Senate, Discussion of the role of the UASC in the university and in relation to the Faculty Senate. What synergies can be created?
- Dr. Eileen Evans, Institutional Effectiveness, HLC Update, Report on the National Survey of Student Engagement and Faculty Survey of Student Engagement results and comparison.
- Dr. David Reinhold, Assessment and Undergraduate Studies, Report on the Collegiate Learning Assessment exam results. The CLA is part of the Voluntary System of Accountability engaged in by WMU.

Assessment In Action The Assessment in Action sub-committee planned and conducted a number of outreach and educational activities again this year. They are very active in the promotion of assessment at WMU. Some accomplishments include:

- **Assessment In Action Day** - Planned and conducted this very successful assessment workshop.
- **Assessment Matters @ WMU** - The assessment news and events publication of the UASC published its tenth issue this year. If you would like to be added to the mailing list contact Karen.Stokes@wmich.edu.
- **Portfolio Contest** - The portfolio contest is intended to showcase portfolios of work that students have developed. Three winners of the WMU Spring 2010 contest each received a \$150 prize and four honorable mentions received \$50 prizes.

UASC Plan Revision The UASC has completed a draft revision for the University Assessment Plan. A final draft is scheduled to be completed by September.

Web Site Revision The web site for assessment at WMU was updated with new content and format, and features easier accessibility. You can now go to mich.edu/assessment to directly access the assessment pages of the OIE web site.

University Assessment Steering Committee Sub-committees

Assessment Excellence Award Cari Robertson, Karen Stokes, Patrick Benton

Graduate Assessment Research Grant Rubric Contest Amy Curtis, Marianne Di Pierro, Dave Reinhold, Katharine Cummings, Marcia Feters, Karen Stokes, Patrick Benton

Assessment in Action Karen Stokes, Sue Brodasky, Maira Bundza, Carla Chase, Katharine Cummings, Bryce Dickey, Marcia Feters, Dave Reinhold, Cathe Springsteen

Assessment Research Grant Award Maira Bundza, Marilyn Kritzman, Patrick Benton

UASC Five Year Plan Katharine Cummings, Dave Reinhold, Patrick Benton, Karen Stokes, Lin Foulk, Laura Darrah, Kevin Knutson

Web Site Revision Maira Bundza, Katharine Cummings, Karen Stokes

Assessment Plan Review and Consultation Teams (RACT) Marilyn Kritzman, Katharine Cummings, Dave Reinhold, Brad Dennis, Patrick Benton

Deans Annual Assessment Report Katharine Cummings, Brad Dennis, Dave Reinhold, Patrick Benton

SoTL Conference Planning Committee Dave Reinhold, Marianne Di Pierro, Brad Dennis, Andrea Beach, and Cathe Springsteen