

UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT STEERING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT ~ SEPTEMBER 2012

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The purpose of this report is to highlight the major accomplishments and activities of the University Assessment Steering Committee for the 2011 – 2012 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 in Action Day The third annual Assessment in Action day was held in March. The day included several break-out sessions, a poster session to present the research projects by the 2011-2012 Assessment Fellows Grant recipients, and a keynote speech by Dr. Marilee Bresciani, a faculty member from San Diego State University. The event drew 104 attendees and was highly rated. The presentations and handouts for the event can be found on the [WMU ScholarWorks site](#).

Assessment Fellows Grant There were six Assessment Fellows Grants awarded in April 2012 for the academic year 2012-2013. The recipients were:

- Laura Ciccantell, Admissions and Advising, College of Education and Human Development
- Jennifer Hsu, Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transgender Student Services
- Bette Ludwig, Academic Advising, College of Arts and Sciences
- Steve Miller, Center for Academic Success Programs
- Renee Schwartz, Biological Sciences
- Megan Slayter, Department of Dance

Assessment Excellence Unit Award

The Assessment Excellence Unit Award was given to the Haworth College of Business (HCoB). HCoB was recognized for their efforts to promote a culture of assessment within the college by providing support services via consultant training, which brought about new and renewed interest in the pursuit of improvement of student learning. They also revamped their BBA and MBA assessment plans to be more targeted to student performance on key indicators as evidence of learning. The new plans will assess across programs, courses and sections. There was also the creation of the Assurance of Learning Council which has a focus on the continuous improvement of assessment planning, data evaluation and assessment practices in the college. The UASC commends the Haworth College of Business on the continual pursuit of excellence in student learning outcomes assessment.

Graduate Student Assessment Grant (GSAG)

There were two Graduate Student Assessment Grants awarded at the third annual WMU Assessment in Action Day Conference in March. The awards were given to

Lindsay Akers Noakes and Maran Subramain, who were both Ph.D. students in the Interdisciplinary Evaluation program.

Guests and Presentations

- Dr. Jody Brylinsky, Institutional Effectiveness, strategic planning and the potential role of the UASC in this process.
- Dr. Eileen Evans, Institutional Effectiveness, HLC update on revised criteria for 2012 that will become effective in January 2013.
- Dr. David Reinhold, Assessment and Undergraduate Studies, report on the Collegiate Learning Assessment exam results for 2010. The CLA is part of the Voluntary System of Accountability engaged in by WMU.
- Dr. Rebecca Adams, institutional effectiveness reviewer from University of North Carolina, Greensboro, gathered data on the role of the UASC, its purpose at WMU, and other assessment related questions to use in the review report she was to create in response to the self-study done by the WMU Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference (SoTL) The fifth annual SoTL Conference was held in May. The keynote speaker was Derek Bruff, an assistant director at the Vanderbilt Center for Teaching and senior lecturer in the Vanderbilt Department of Mathematics. Several breakout sessions were offered on the topic of conducting and publishing research on teaching and learning. The event was well attended and highly rated.

Assessment Plans The UASC is still working with several student support units that have been asked to develop assessment plans. Many of these units have submitted plans for review and most other units are in some stage of development of the plan. The UASC has been working closely with these units through our Consultation and Review Teams (CARTs) and our Traveling Assessment Consultation Teams (TACT). Several assessment plans were approved by the UASC this academic year including the Office of Admissions and Advising for the College of Education and Human Development, The Haworth College of Business Advising and Admissions Office, Career Center and BBA and MBA units/programs. The UASC also created a rubric to use as a guide for both the units and the CART members to evaluate the student support unit's assessment plans.

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 successful and informative assessment workshop.
- **Assessment Matters @ WMU** - The assessment news and events

publication of the UASC published its fifteenth issue this year. If you would like to be added to the mailing list contact Karen Stokes Chapo at: karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu.

- **Assessment Flyer** – A laminated assessment flyer to advertise the resources and services available at WMU was created and distributed to all departments in academic colleges and the Division of Student Affairs.
- **ScholarWorks** – A collection was added to the WMU ScholarWorks website to serve as a repository and archive for the Assessment in Action Days Conference publications and presentations, the Assessment Matters @ WMU Newsletters, assessment publications by WMU faculty and staff and the Assessment Fellows Grant posters and/or presentations. (<http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/assessment/>)

University Assessment Steering Committee Sub-committees

Assessment in Action Sue Brodasky, Maira Bundza, Katharine Cummings, Marcia Fetters, Kevin Knutson, Anne Lundquist, Dave Reinhold, Cathe Springsteen, Karen Stokes Chapo, Beth van den Hombergh, Donna Weinreich

Assessment Excellence Awards Patrick Benton, Brad Dennis, Karen Stokes Chapo, Donna Weinreich

Assessment Fellows Grant Award Laura Darrah, Anne Lundquist, Karen Stokes Chapo, Donna Weinreich

Assessment Plan Consultation and Review Teams (CART) Chairs: Patrick Benton, Katharine Cummings, Laura Darrah, Brad Dennis, Stephen Malcolm, Dave Reinhold. (And a special thank you to all UASC members as everyone on the committee participated in one of the CARTs.)

Graduate Student Assessment Grant (GSAG) Meredith Atchinson, Marianne Di Pierro, Bob Dlouhy

SoTL Conference Planning Committee Andrea Beach, Brad Dennis, Marianne Di Pierro, David Reinhold, Cathe Springsteen, Lisa LeVasseur