

## Office of Institutional Effectiveness News - Fall 2022

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To: Provost's Academic Forum Associate Deans Mailing List <Academic-Forum-Associate-Deans@wmich.edu>; Provost's Academic Forum Chairs Mailing List <Academic-Forum-Chairs@wmich.edu>; Provost's Academic Forum Leadership Mailing List <Academic-Forum-Leadership@wmich.edu>



Nov. 22, 2022

Dear Bronco community:

As the fall semester winds down, we'd like to take a moment to let you to know that we're thankful to have such a wonderful group of colleagues to work with. We wish you a restful Thanksgiving break, and that the remainder of the fall semester goes smoothly for everyone.

[Contact us](#) with questions or to let us know how we can help. *Please pass this message along to anyone you think might be interested.*

## Accreditation

### Specialized program accreditation

Effective July 1, 2022, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness will reimburse the SRM "responsibility units" (RUs) for 80% of their annual maintenance of accreditation fees once the RU has paid the initial invoice and submitted a request to IE for reimbursement consideration. "Maintenance of accreditation fees" are limited to those fees published by the accrediting agency that are specifically identified as "annual fees." IE also will

reimburse separate membership fees in professional organizations that are associated with the accrediting agency when that membership is a specific requirement for maintaining accreditation.

To receive reimbursement, RUs must email their request for reimbursement to Cathe Murphy, associate director, integrated program review and accreditation, at [cathe.murphy@wmich.edu](mailto:cathe.murphy@wmich.edu). The request must include a fund 11 department number, an electronic copy of the original invoice, and proof that payment was initiated (e.g., receipt, Procard statement, signed voucher, etc.). Additional information regarding accreditation reimbursements, as well as seeking, maintaining, and transferring specialized program accreditation is published in the Policies and Procedures guide on our website at <https://wmich.edu/effectiveness/accreditation/specialized>.

## Assessment

### **Assessment Mini Grant 2023 Program: Now accepting proposals**

The University Assessment Steering Committee is now accepting proposals for the 2023 Assessment Mini Grant Program. The purpose of the grant program is to support projects related to outcomes assessment to help improve student learning outcomes in both academic and co-curricular programs. Funding of \$15,000 is available this fiscal year with a maximum award of \$1,500. All full- and part-time faculty, staff and graduate students are eligible to apply. Applications are due by 8 p.m. on **Monday, Nov. 28**. Contact [Karen Stokes Chapo](#) with questions. To learn more and to submit a proposal, go to: <https://wmich.edu/assessment.application>

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### **National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE) reports now available**

This past spring, WMU participated in both the National Survey of Student Engagement and the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement. Together these surveys can help us to learn about the college experiences of our students, the extent to which they engage in educationally effective activities and their perceptions about the institutional environment that support their learning.

We have received our results for the core survey and for the two additional questions sets

(called topical modules) for both surveys, 'Inclusiveness and Engagement with Cultural Diversity' and 'Career and Workforce Preparation'. Our NSSE results can be found on at: <https://wmich.edu/assessment/institutional/nsse>, including the NSSE-FSSE combined report. We will be posting more of the FSSE reports soon, but you may view the results from our previous administrations [here](#).

For more information or questions, please contact [Karen Stokes Chapo](#).

## Course Evaluation and Curriculum

### Campus Labs now Anthology Student Course Ratings System schedule

For most courses, the Student Course Ratings Instrument becomes available to students at midnight on the first day of the evaluation period and closes at 11:59 p.m. on the last day. For fall and spring semester courses that end prior to exam week, however, student course ratings begin on the official course ending date and continue for an additional nine days (total of 10 days).

In all cases, faculty have until 11:59 p.m. on the day prior to the evaluation period to make changes to course ratings form(s). Because Campus Labs now Anthology Student Course Ratings System (SCRS) receives data from Banner, all faculty members (full-time, part-time, teaching assistants, and instructors of record), and all courses with three or more enrolled students, are automatically scheduled for the student ratings system each semester/session.

#### Activity Fall Term 2022

Open Student Course Ratings Period	Monday, Nov. 28, 2022
Closed Student Course Ratings Period	Friday, Dec. 16, 2022
Final Grades Due	Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022
Results of Student Course Ratings	Friday, Dec. 23, 2022

#### Activity Spring Term 2023

Open Student Course Ratings Period	Monday, Apr. 10, 2023
Closed Student Course Ratings Period	Friday, Apr. 28, 2023
Final Grades Due	Tuesday, May 2, 2023
Results of Student Course Ratings	Friday, May 5, 2023

#### Activity Summer I Term 2023

Open Student Course Ratings Period	Monday, June 19, 2023
Closed Student Course Ratings Period	Thursday, Jun. 29, 2023
Final Grades Due	Wednesday, Jul. 5, 2023
Results of Student Course Ratings	Friday, Jul., 2023

More information regarding the Campus Labs Student Course Ratings System can be found at: <https://wmich.edu/assessment/evaluationsystems/student-course-ratings-system>

## Integrated Program Review

### Academic program review

WMU will begin Year 3 of its five-year cycle on February 6, 2023 with a total of 56 programs and their concentrations spanning the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education and Human Development, Fine Arts, Health and Human Services, and the Haworth College of Business. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness will be working with programs throughout December and January to ensure self-study completers are identified, provided access to the online reporting system, and provided with appropriate training. Please watch our website at <https://wmich.edu/effectiveness/program/academic> for the full list of affected programs, spring 2023 timeline, and training information to be posted by the end of November. Please contact Cathe Murphy, associate director, integrated program review and accreditation, at [cathe.murphy@wmich.edu](mailto:cathe.murphy@wmich.edu) for more information.

## What is active learning and how can it help our students?

**Active learning** is an approach to instruction that involves actively engaging students with the course material through discussions, problem solving, case studies, role plays and other methods. Active learning approaches place a greater degree of responsibility on the learner than passive approaches such as lectures, but instructor guidance is still crucial in the active learning classroom. Active learning activities may range in length from a couple of minutes to whole class sessions or may take place over multiple class sessions.

Benefits of utilizing an active learning environment and techniques:

- Better recall and deeper understanding of material over standard lectures, where student concentration drops off after 15 minutes.<sup>1</sup>
- Improved exam scores and decreased failure rates.<sup>2</sup>

- Education equity benefits (lower-performing students do better than already high-achieving students).<sup>3</sup>
- Different student learning styles supported.<sup>4</sup>
- Enhanced student learning, maintained interest/engagement in the topic, and more enjoyable.<sup>5</sup>

1 Jess Gifkins, "What Is 'Active Learning' and Why Is it Important?" e-International Relations (October 8, 2015). [www.e-ir.info/2015/10/08/what-is-active-learning-and-why-is-it-important](http://www.e-ir.info/2015/10/08/what-is-active-learning-and-why-is-it-important).

2 Freeman, Scott, Sarah L. Eddy, Miles McDonough, Michelle K. Smith, Nnadozie Okoroafor, Hannah Jordt & Mary Pat Wenderoth. "Active Learning Increases Student Performance in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, May 12, 2014. doi:10.1073/pnas.1319030111.

3, 4, 5 Gifkins. "What Is 'Active Learning' and Why Is it Important?"



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