ASSESSMENT UPDATES

University of Findlay

Welcome!

**UNIVERSITY OF FINDLAY
ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW**

According to assessment expert, Linda Suskie, "Assessments are only worthwhile if the results are put to good use, and those uses can only take place after careful consideration and discussion. That consideration and discussion, in turn, can take place only if assessment results are communicated usefully, clearly, and accurately."With these words in mind, the Global Review Committee (GRC) offers you the first annual UF Assessment Newsletter. In its pages you will find updates from each of the major assessment committees along with information regarding campus assessment plans for AY 2020-2021.

We hope these updates help drive discussion on campus—discussion about the ways in which we can and do continuously collect and then reflect on data, make informed adjustments, and get better and better at the work of teaching and learning.On-going assessment is a healthy part of any organization, and it is a team effort. Much thanks goes out to each of you for the part you play in examining the goals, quality, and efficiency of UF's curriculum, general education offerings, academic programs, and non-instructional areas. Together we can put our assessment results "to good use," as Suskie advises and watch our campus community thrive as a result of these efforts.

What's inside our first issue:

APR

CURRICULAR COMMITTEE

GE

GLOBAL ASSESSMENT

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL ASSESSMENT

APR

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Megan Adams (CAHSS;)Kathleen Crates (COE); Louann Cummings (COB); Christine Denecker (VPAA's Office); Darin Fields (VPAA); Jeff Frye (COS, Dean); Rebecca Herr (COHP); Sara Hingson (VPAA's Office); Kim Lichtveld (Faculty Senate Rep); Pat Malone (CPHM); Tim Murphy (COS); Ron Tulley (CAHSS, Dean)

In 2019-2020, the APR Committee worked to improve the quality of snapshot data and then reviewed and made updates to the full APR process, which is scheduled for AY 2020-2021. In terms of the yearly snapshot data, the committee focused specifically on Direct Expenditure per Student Credit Hour Generated, Student per Major; Graduates Per Major; and Student Evaluation of Instructors. In each case, data were reviewed, cleaned, and repackaged in more user-friendly formats. This meant working with representatives of ITS, the Business Office, and the Registrar's Office. The result is more reliable data in these areas moving forward. Snapshot data were shared with Chairs in May 2020; however, no yearly responses were required due to disruption to the process caused by COVID-19.

Prior to Summer 2020, the committee reviewed APR metrics, and additional examination of the metrics occurred over the summer months per the work of a subcommittee. A new chair will be named as the committee commences work for Fall 2020. Below is the timeline for the upcoming full APR Review:

September 2020	Clean, organize, and clarify data Review scoring rubrics	TBD APR Committee
October 2020	Clean, organize, and clarify data Finalize scoring rubrics	TBD APR Committee
November-December 2020	Clean, organize, and clarify data	TBD
November-December 2020	Ready workspaces	APR Chair and H. Schneider
December 2020	Update communication with chairs regarding reporting metrics, rubrics, and timeline	APR Chair
Late December-early January 2020	Release data to chairs and open workspaces	APR Chair and H. Schneider
January-February 2021	Chairs prepare APR reports	Chairs/department leads with support from department members
February 26, 2021	Full APR reports due	Chairs/department leads with support from department members
March 5, 20201	Non-compliance list sent to deans and VPAA	APR Chair
March 19, 20201	Good-will date to submit reports; no reports accepted after this date.	Chairs on non-compliance list with support from department members and APR committee members
March-April 2021	Review and scoring of APR reports	APR Committee
April 23, 2021	Feedback to APR reports released to chairs/department heads	APR Chair
May 21, 2021	Response to feedback due to APR Committee	Chairs/department heads
May 28, 2021	Non-compliance list sent to deans and VPAA	APR Chair
June 11, 2021	Good-will date to submit reports; no responses accepted after this date.	Chairs on non-compliance list with support from department members and APR committee members
June-July 2021	Report prepared for Global Review Committee Annual newsletter	APR Chair and (potentially) subcommittee of APR

Respectfully, Darin Fields and Chris Denecker, APR Committee Chairs

Curricular Assessment

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Erin Alava, COS; Stephanie Born, COHP; Patrick Malone, CPHM; Brent Wickham, COB; Jennifer Fennema-Bloom, CAHSS; Maria Gamba, COB; Gwynne Rife, COE; Jamie O'Brien, COHP; Valerie Escobedo, CAHSS; Joanna Beres, COS; Sandra Earle, CPHM; Kathy Crates, COE; College Deans; Chris Denecker, VPAA Office Representative; Sara Hingson, Director of External Affairs; Tony Goedde, Registrar/Director Institutional Research; Helen Schneider, Assessment/Evaluation and Database Training Liason

The Curricular Assessment Committee is excited to have accomplished many improvements in the 19-20 Academic Year. In case you missed these changes, here is an overview:

In the spirit of continuous improvement, the Committee identified the need to update the Assessment Outcomes to better serve the University. In the Spring, Faculty Senate approved the CAC proposal to update the Undergraduate and Graduate Assessment Outcomes.

Updated Undergraduate Outcomes	Updated Graduate Outcomes
1. Skills 2. Knowledge 3. Disposition 4. Experiential Learning	1. Skills 2. Knowledge 3. Disposition 4. Experiential Learning 5. Research

The Curricular Assessment Committee will be working hard to construct new instructions, rubrics, and workspaces in the upcoming Academic Year. More information about the transition and implementation to the new Outcomes will soon be provided.

The working timeline for Curricular Assessment has also been updated to allow for more meaningful interaction between the Committee and submitters and to better accommodate deadlines for ALL areas of assessment reporting. **PLEASE NOTE: Submission for 20-21 will use existing Outcomes, Rubrics, and Workspaces.**

- NEW for Academic Year 20-21
  - "EVEN YEAR" submitters: Deadline to submit is January 29th, 2021
  - Workspaces will open August 2021
  - Committee pairs will be assigned to work directly with submitters prior to submission to support improved quality (September-November 2020)

Overall, compliance for Curricular Assessment has been successful and we would like to thank everyone for their time and effort. We would also like to reiterate support for the quality of assessment occurring and the culture of continuous improvement at the University of Findlay. In addition to the traditionally offered Help Sessions prior to submission deadline, be on the look-out for CTE workshops focused specifically on assessment in the upcoming year!

Thanks for a successful year!
Erin Alava, Curricular Assessment Chair

GE Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Nathan Tice – Chair (COS); David Essinger – Secretary (CAHSS); Susan Brooks (COE); Aaron Blodgett (COS); Yanting Guo (COS); Shawn Graves (CAHSS); Ahmed El-Zayaty (COB); Tina Fournier (COHP); Tim Burkhart (CPHM); Stephanie Born (COHP); Chris Medjesky (CAHSS); Chris Denecker – VPAA Designate

Hello Campus Community,

Can you believe that we are ready for another academic year?! And that the CORE+ Curriculum turns 5 this year! That's right…full implementation of CORE+ will enter its 5th year in the Fall of 2020. It's been really exciting to see all the courses that have been incorporated into CORE+. And in the spirit of "continuous improvement", the GE Committee would love to see more. Please be watching for submission invitations if you have a course that you'd like to have considered for CORE+ status. Additionally, the GE Committee will be working on a modified CORE+ Curriculum proposal to go to Undergraduate Council for approval of a new 5 year cycle. Please contact myself or your GE representative if you have feedback or ideas on CORE+ moving forward.

Committee member, Susan Brooks, presenting at CORE+ Town Hall.

The 2019-2020 academic year was a busy one, with a lot of great highlights as it pertains to General Education:

- We reached 80% and 78% participation rates in student assessment submissions (within the LAT side of Taskstream) for seats in CORE+ courses in the Fall and Spring semesters respectively.
- Undergraduate Council approved several new courses within the CORE+ Curriculum. For a full, updated list, follow this link on the University website: https://www.findlay.edu/intranet/core-approved-courses.
- GE Committee members reviewed the CORE+ course assessments performed by faculty and gave feedback on how this process could be enhanced. If you were the "point person" responsible for a course review, check your AMS space in Taskstream to look at the scoring and feedback.
- We continued training and feedback sessions throughout the year to engage with faculty on how to best implement and utilize CORE+ courses and assessment. CTE sponsored "Town Hall" sessions which provided critical feedback to the Committee on how to best move forward with a modified CORE+ Curriculum.

As we think about the future, please make sure to contact myself or your GE Committee representatives (each College has at least one!) with your feedback, thoughts, or questions. We are happy to facilitate training or provide support, as well as just listen to your ideas. The continued success of CORE+ is dependent upon all stakeholders on campus.

Thanks for all your hard work and don't hesitate to reach out!
–Nate Tice, GE Committee Chair
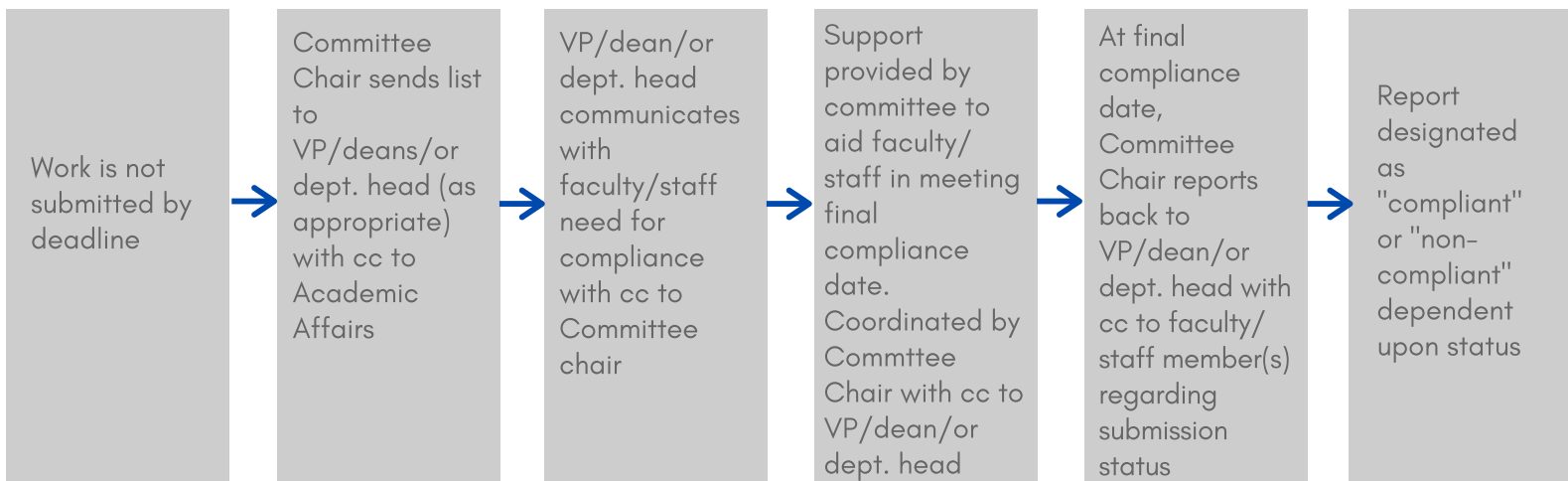
Global Review

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chris Denecker (APR); Erin Alava (Curricular); Darin Fields (VPAA); Helen Schneider (Taskstream); Beth Stewart (CTE); Nate Tice (General Education); Tricia Valasek (NIA)

The Global Review Committee is comprised of Chairs of the four major assessment committees on campus. During AY 2019-2020, the committee worked to identify themes across campus assessment. These themes were then shared with Dr. Fell, who included the information in her January 2020 address to campus. Specifically, three findings rose to the surface:

a. The need for Office of Institutional Research (on-going need);
b. The need for Professional Development to move faculty and staff beyond compliance to more robust assessment; and
c. The need for increased communication among areas facing the same challenges (as noted in the assessment data).

In addition to compiling this information and bringing it to the attention of the administration, the committee devised a Global Assessment Map (shared in this newsletter) that provides an "at-a-glance" perspective on the various assessment activities and due dates on campus. In other work, the committee crafted.

| Work is not submitted by deadline | → | Committee Chair sends list to VP/deans/or dept. head (as appropriate) with cc to Academic Affairs | → | VP/dean/or dept. head communicates with faculty/staff need for compliance with cc to Committee chair | → | Support provided by committee to aid faculty/ staff in meeting final compliance date. Coordinated by Commttee Chair with cc to VP/dean/or dept. head | → | At final compliance date, Committee Chair reports back to VP/dean/or dept. head with cc to faculty/ staff member(s) regarding submission status | → | Report designated as "compliant" or "non-compliant" dependent upon status |

In Fall 2020, the committee will begin to build in-house professional development opportunities by partnering with members of the campus community who have strong backgrounds in aligning objectives with assessments in order to gather meaningful data that lead to change. Supporting faculty and staff as they utilize assessment as self-reflection and promoting a culture where assessment leads to relevant change are among the committee's goals for 2020-2021.

We are looking forward to another strong year!
Chris Denecker, Global Committee Chair

Non-Instructional Assessment (NIA) Update

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Kelly Warner, Advancement; Chris Denecker, VPAA's Office; Dave Emsweller, VP Student Affairs; Rebecca Jenkins, Enrollment Management; Brandi Laurita, Director of Athletics; Tom Lause, VP Business Affairs; Ray McCandless, CIO; Skylar Mettert, Student Affairs; Helen Schneider, Taskstream; Mariah Schroeder, Human Resources; Beth Stewart, ATS

NIA is in its second year of its newly formatted assessment process that focuses on strengths of each non-instructional area and challenges faced by each area. During Year 1 (208-2019), 100% of units reported, and individual feedback was provided to each area. The committee then reviewed the assessment data and identified several overall themes. This information was shared with Dr. Fell and the Cabinet in Fall 2019. The NIA Committee then conducted focus groups in Spring 2020. A variety of non-instructional units were represented in the discussions, which focused on themes that arose from 2019 assessment findings. The goal of the focus groups was to come up with some solutions to common challenges faced on campus. The chart below includes a list of those themes/challenges and possible solutions.

In Spring 2020, assessment data was gathered again and reviewed by the committee. Participation, in terms of reporting, remained strong. More information is forthcoming from the Spring 2020 review of data, as the committee moves into Fall 2020. A first course of action for the fall is the election of a new chair to replace the seat vacated by Tricia Valasek.

Challenges Discussed
- Getting students to know about, engage in, or attend events
- Getting faculty to know about, engage in, or attend events
- Inconsistent internal staff reviews
- Need for increased civility in email exchanges
- Lags/gaps in internal communication

Possible Solutions to Internal Challenges
- Dedicate one employee to internal communications equally reaching faculty and staff
- Review department structures/alignments to reduce redundancy in reporting
- Institute collaborative work-time
- Provide campus-wide civility training
- Establish Office of Institutional Research

With appreciation,
Chris Denecker, NIA Committee Chair