

University Assessment Committee
Minutes
Tuesday, November 7, 2017

Opening Reflection

I. Announcements

- a. HLC conference, April 6-10, 2018, “Innovation and Transformation.” For more information: <http://www.hlcommission.org/Programs-Events/conference.html>
 - i. CU proposal on: “Accreditation Lifecycle: Strategies for Sustaining Momentum”
- b. 2017-2018 Assessment Calendar: <http://www.creighton.edu/aea/assessmentofstudentlearning/universityassessmentcommittee/>
- c. Assessment conferences:
 - i. Association of Catholic Colleges and University (ACC&U) Annual Meeting, Jan. 24-27, 2018, Washington, DC. <http://www.aacu.org/meetings/annualmeeting/am18>
 - ii. Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) General Education and Assessment Conference, Feb. 15-17, 2018, Philadelphia, PA. <http://www.aacu.org/meetings/generaleducation/gened2018>
 - iii. Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education, Jun. 4-7, 2018, Salt Lake City, UT [Registration to open in January 2018]
- d. Annual Assessment Reports due November 27, 2017; some programs have already submitted.
 - i. TaskStream new user and refresher sessions, scheduled October–early November.

II. Committee Updates

a. Professional Development

- i. University Assessment Symposium Report—November 3, 2017. Over 80 faculty and staff attending the “Shaping Critical Thinking” symposium, which included a: poster (over 30 posters), hands-on activity, panelist, and college/school/discipline specific sessions. Additional feedback will be provided at the December UAC meeting.
- ii. Post-Symposium Workshop, “Cultivating Critical Thinking in the Classroom and Community” to be led by Dr. Lou Jensen on November 17.

b. Parity of Learning and Online Education Metrics

- i. The subcommittee has met several times on the topics of shared assessment data, coding of data, terms and definitions, and commonality between face-to-face and online program outcomes. Through these efforts, the subcommittee will develop parity of learning metrics.

c. Academic Program Review

- i. 17-18 Programs undergoing review (9 areas): Sociology and Anthropology; Journalism, Media, and Computing; MSNursing; Philosophy; Fine and Performing Arts; Pharmacy Sciences; DDS and Oral Biology; MPublic Health; and EMS.
- ii. The subcommittee will begin to construct a rubric for assessing syllabi and potentially design a toolkit to include essential elements needed for syllabi construction.
 - o Heider College of Business has a syllabi template which is used for each course offered in the college.

d. Peer Review

- i. Peer Reviewers' met following the UAC meeting and would have selected a date for Overview of TaskStream (TS) Peer Review Training. The TS Peer Review Training will allow reviewers to: 1) review the process for reviews, 2) prepare for the work to be done, and 3) assign the reviewers to the programs.

III. HLC updates

- a. The HLC Steering Committee has been formed and includes the following individuals and their areas of expertise:
 - Gail Jensen, Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO)
 - (experienced HLC peer reviewer, team chair, Institutional Actions Council member, assessment mentor)
 - Mary Ann Danielson, Faculty development/assessment
 - (experienced HLC peer reviewer, team chair, assessment mentor)
 - Mary Kunes Connell, Federal Compliance
 - (experienced HLC peer reviewer, team chair, Federal compliance panel reviewer)
 - Brenda Coppard, Health sciences/assessment/faculty development
 - (experienced HLC peer reviewer)
 - Melinda Stoner, Registrar
 - Elizabeth Keyes, finance, Provost's office
 - Cindy Costanzo – newly trained HLC peer reviewer (October 2017)
- b. Responsibilities include:
 - Communication with the Provost regarding HLC updates, requirements, and institutional responses
 - Keeping abreast of HLC requirements, policy changes, and continued planning for Creighton's obligations to HLC as an institution on the Open Pathway.
 - Annual Institutional Update (AIU)
 - Ongoing institutional assessment of student learning
 - Institutional changes that require HLC review and approval and/or notification
 - Planning for revising the Assurance Argument in Year 4 (2021)
 - Planning for the next Quality Initiative Project in years (5-7) (2022-2024)
 - Continued development opportunities for new peer reviewers from Creighton

IV. Discussion

- a. An overview of the Center for Transformative Learning and Innovative Pedagogies was given to the committee, with information about the development of the center, its mission, guiding values, and the role of the faculty development advisory group.
- b. The Parity of Student Learning update focused on reviewing [Distance Education Policy](#) and decision to move forward and make recommendations to update the policy as it relates to parity, credit hour, quality syllabi, federal compliance, and accreditation.
- c. The 2016 Gallup Survey Report "Helping Creighton University Graduates Achieve Great Jobs and Great Lives" was shared with the committee. The report finds that Creighton University is thriving in five areas of well-being (purpose, social, financial, community and physical). UAC members were encouraged to read the complete report. The findings will be further shared on campus on January 30, 11:30-1; Skutt 104, presented by Brenda Coppard, SPAHP and Valerie Calderon, Gallup Organization.

2017-2018 UAC Strategic Priorities

- Develop and Pilot of Parity Metrics (course and program level)
- Draft guidelines differentiating Undergraduate/Graduate/Professional student outcomes and expectations
- Celebrate curricular innovations producing improved student learning (outcomes)
- Develop a rubric to assess syllabi (guide syllabus construction)
- Support of MAGIS Core Assessment
- Continue UAC Campus Reporting (e.g., APR report to Faculty/Academic Council, Annual Assessment Report to Deans, VPs and Provost)
- Enhance our culture of assessment (e.g., growth in assessment practices, evidence of changes/improvements driven by assessments)

2017-2018 Suggested Practices/Reminders

- Share articles of interest and best practices for learning and assessment
- Those unable to attend the UAC meetings may ask another to serve as their Proxy
- UAC members may invite guests to attend the monthly meetings

2017-2018 UAC Meeting Details: All meetings will be on Tuesdays and run from 8:00-9:15 a.m.

December 5	Skutt 105
January 16	Skutt 105
February 13	Skutt 105
March 13	Skutt 105
April 10	Skutt 105
May 8	Skutt 105