

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT TIP OF THE MONTH: AN EFFECTIVE ASSESSMENT PLAN STARTS WITH SPECIFIC, WELL-DEFINED, AND MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

ITL Institute: June 25-27, 2012

[Beth Lasky](#), GE Director

The [ITL Summer Institute](#) was held at the CSUN Chancellor's Office with a focus on instruments and strategies for programmatic General Education assessment consistent with Executive Order 1065. Five faculty members from CSUN attended. The institute sessions focused on innovations in pedagogy, general education and higher education and included workshops on rubrics and program assessment; ePortfolios and developing performance tasks that provide evidence for persuasive writing and critical thinking tied to one or more content areas.

The team, after attending the institute, developed overall GE Program Learning Outcomes (GELOs). Next steps include aligning these GELOs with the campus Fundamental Learning Competencies and developing a GE assessment plan for CSUN's GE program. A team of faculty teaching at least one course in Comparative Cultural Studies has been identified to discuss and plan the assessment of the GELO associated with that GE section.

COURSE REDESIGN INSTITUTE: JUNE '12

[DEONE ZELL](#), Sr. Director, Academic Technology
[LI WANG](#), Instructional Designer

Sponsored by Academic Affairs and [Information Technology](#), the 2012 [Course Redesign Institute](#) was designed around a rubric called Quality Online Learning and Teaching rubric. This rubric is intended to be used by faculty to develop and review online and hybrid courses. Course Redesign Institute participants use the rubric to ensure that courses are "aligned", meaning Student Learning Outcomes are measurable and clearly defined from students' perspectives, and all other components in the course including assessment tools, course materials, course technologies and activities are in sync with Student Learning Outcomes. Course Redesign Institute participants also discussed assessment strategies, incorporating Universal Design for Learning principles into assessment, and ways of assessing learners online.

What Did WASC Say?

[Marilynn Filbeck](#), Interim Co-Director of Academic Assessment & Program Review

Some of you asked what WASC had to say about CSUN's student learning outcomes assessment. In the accreditation letter to Interim President Hellenbrand, WASC President Ralph Wolff wrote, "The Commission urges CSUN to move forward with its plans to ensure that each program adopts sound assessment methods, especially direct methods, and utilizes the findings to improve learning." The final letter of accreditation and the WASC site visit report are available on the [Institutional Research website](#).

2012-13 Program Review Launch:

August 29, 2012

[Eli Bartle](#), Program Review Coordinator

During the first week of fall semester classes, 21 faculty, representing 12 departments and programs, attended the 2012-2013 Program Review Launch Meeting. [Eli Bartle](#), [Bonnie Paller](#) and graduate assistant [Janine Castoldi](#) facilitated a discussion of the self-study, external reviewers' visit, and final MOU process. [Bettina Huber](#), Director of the [Office of Institutional Research](#) (IR), introduced the statistical data that is now posted on the [IR website](#). This data is needed in the self-study report, the first step in the Program Review process. This was followed by a discussion on how to make sure the data is accurate. Another change discussed at the meeting was helping departments and programs include more assessment results in the self-study. The plan is that the 12 participating programs will complete their program reviews in the next 12 to 18 months.

If you have further questions about writing the self-study or scheduling the necessary meetings to begin the external review, please visit the [Program Review website](#) or contact [Eli Bartle](#) or [Janine Castoldi](#) via email or telephone (Ext. 2969). The list and status of all Departments and Programs conducting their program review is also updated weekly on the [website](#).

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

2012-13 WORKSHOPS: WASC EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING? EMAIL [ANU THAKUR](#)

Contact the Academic Assessment Team:

Anu Thakur, Coordinator, athakur@csun.edu

Bonnie Paller, Director, bonnie.paller@csun.edu

Marilynn Filbeck, Interim Co-Director, marilynn.filbeck@csun.edu

Phone: 818-677-2969 MD: 8203