

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT TIP OF THE MONTH: USE A COURSE ALIGNMENT MATRIX TO TRACK ASSESSMENT THROUGH PROGRAMS AND COURSES

Assessment: Gender and Women's Studies

[Breny Mendoza](#), Assessment Liaison

Assessment in Gender and Women's Studies included a questionnaire distributed to students in their gateway course GWS 100 and capstone course GWS 400. In addition a project was embedded in the GWS 400 capstone course. This involved students writing their research papers in stages. Papers were scored using a critical thinking rubric that addressed 4 SLOs. The GWS 301 Feminist Theory course was reviewed at the department's faculty retreat to assess the alignment of the course with the department's SLOs. The assessment resulted in revision of course objectives and syllabi, and selection of new textbooks. A report on the experience of teaching feminist theory and the capstone course was presented at the 2012 International Political Science Association.

WASC RETREAT ON ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

February 14-15, 2013 SAN JOSE, CA

[Beth Lasky](#), GE Director
[Anu Thakur](#), Assessment Coordinator

The WASC Retreat on Assessment of Learning was the last in a series of workshops hosted by WASC. The retreat included presentations on a variety of assessment-related topics and mentorship for teams working on their assessment strategies. Beth Lasky and Anu Thakur attended the workshop as CSUN's GE assessment team. The workshop and mentor meetings lent important insights into ways in which the current GE assessment plan for our campus can be enhanced.

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT RETREAT

Save the Date: FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2013

All CSUN faculty and staff are invited to attend the Annual Assessment Retreat scheduled for Friday, May 3rd from 10:00a.m. – 3:00p.m. in EDU 1214. If you would like to see a specific topic featured on the agenda, please contact [Anu Thakur](#).

Details of the retreat coming soon.

Assessment: Mechanical Engineering

[George Youssef](#), [Robert Ryan](#), Assessment Liaisons

The 2011-12 annual assessment for Mechanical engineering involved a multi-pronged approach including EBI (Educational Benchmarking, Inc.) senior surveys, senior exit interviews, and Student Advisory Board meetings. ABET, the accrediting agency identifies the SLOs that the program teaches to and selective SLOs are assessed each year. The EBI assessed 10 of the ABET SLOs and all five of CSUN's Fundamental Learning Competencies, including Written communication, Oral communication, Information competence, Quantitative literacy, and Critical thinking. Detailed assessment of oral communication skills was conducted using a rubric developed by the department. Recommendations for changes based on the results of the assessment included 1) changes to course content/topics covered, 2) course sequence, and 3) addition/deletion of courses in program. A number of ASEE (American Society of Engineering Education) conference papers have been presented over the past few years related to assessment. Two papers from the year 2011-12 described curriculum changes made as a result of assessment were:

G. Youssef and R. Ryan, "Relationship Between Exam Format and Learning Effectiveness", presented at the 2012 ASEE PSW Conference, April 2012

R. Ryan, "Assessment of a New Design Stem Course Sequence", presented at the 2012 ASEE Annual Conference, June 2012

UPCOMING CONFERENCES:

ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE: THE EVOLUTION OF AN ASSESSMENT PLAN

MARCH 22, 2013 CSU FULLERTON

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING? EMAIL [MARILYNN FILBECK](#)

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