

Assessment Counsel Newsletter

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“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

-Nelson Mandela

Provost Assessment Award Winners

Congratulations to each of the following programs as recipients of the 2015-16 Provost Assessment Incentive Award. The faculty and staff members in these programs are to be commended for their hard work in assessing student learning to improve their programs. The purpose of the Provost’s Assessment Incentive Award is to encourage departments and councils to use assessment data for program improvement to close the assessment loop.

Brief Summary of Actions Taken to Improve Programs

Language Arts – revision of entire curriculum to ensure all aspects of language arts (reading, writing, listening, speaking, visualizing and enacting) are represented in an effort to eliminate learning gaps.

Nutrition & Dietetics – revision of capstone course, enhancement of teaching methods, revision of curriculum, restructuring of student advising, etc.

Communication Disorders – realignment of content in courses, creation of new course in cognitive communication disorders, creation of five new practicum sites to enhance learning opportunities in medical settings.

Broadcast & Cinematic Arts – revision of learning outcomes to reflect changes in the field, redesign courses to address new outcomes, redesign core courses to reflect student request for “a cross-platform writing course”, etc.

Counseling & Special Education – establishment of a faculty mentoring program focused on student learning, curriculum revisions focused on specialty areas, restructure internship program, revision of practicum to enhance counseling skills, etc.

Program-Level Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Application for Funding Support

Deadlines for submission of applications for Assessment Grants
April 1 by 5:00 p.m., EST

Deadline for submission of applications for Assessment Activities,
Professional Development, and Assessment Presentations
First Monday of the month,
September – April by 5:00 p.m., EST

[Click here for the application \(found under Funding Support\)](#)

Annual Assessment Retreat

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2nd Annual Assessment Retreat! We

had a wonderful turnout, great presenters, and many spectacular conversations. If you are interested in viewing any of the presentations from the retreat click [here](#). Mark your calendars for next years

3rd Annual Assessment Retreat:

Thursday, January 5, 2017.

Call for Proposals! If you are interested in presenting at the next assessment retreat, contact Mike Carson at carso1ma@cmich.edu



Pictured are several of the presenters from the retreat

Best Practices-Assessment Planning

One of the most detrimental activities affecting program-level assessment of student learning is when assessment activities are performed in isolation. As the 2015-2016 academic year comes to an end, consider engaging multiple stakeholders, such as faculty members (tenured, tenured track, and fixed term) students, alumni, and advisory committees, in the assessment process. These stakeholders should review findings and provide feedback resulting in conclusions and discoveries of the findings. Feedback should then be compiled and discussed in detail among all faculty members in the program(s) to develop action plans for those learning outcomes that were either not met or partially met. Action plans may include the revision of learning outcomes, measurement approaches, course sequencing, course content, pedagogical practices, instructional levels (where content is introduced, reinforced, or emphasized), etc. It is absolutely critical to include all faculty in the evaluation of action plans to determine the impact on student learning and the program, essentially closing the assessment loop.

For further information regarding resources and best practices, visit the CMU Assessment Webpage:

[Click here](#)

-Mike Carson

Director of Curriculum and Assessment

CALL FOR PROPOSALS!

2016 IUPUI Assessment Institute

The Assessment Institute in Indianapolis is the nation's oldest and largest event focused exclusively on outcomes assessment in higher education. The Assessment Institute in Indianapolis will be held at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown October 16-18, 2016.

Proposals are due March 21, 2016

For more information on submitting a proposal [click here!](#)

Upcoming Assessment Conferences

[AAEEBL Conference: August 1-4, Boston, MA](#)
[Call for Proposals: Due March 4, 2016](#)

[AALHE Annual Conference: June 6-8, Milwaukee, WI](#)

[Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference April 15-19, Chicago, IL](#)