Learning from Our Assessment Heroes: The 2023 Mini grant Recipients

Office of Institutional Effectiveness

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WMU Assessment Mini Grant Program

Through the assessment mini grant program, we intend to:

• Help programs to build engagement and participation in assessment of student learning
• Build and expand the assessment toolboxes for our community
• Promote continuous improvement efforts for student learning and student success
• Promote a culture of data-informed decision-making
• Provide financial support for our community to participate in on-going improvement efforts

For more information: https://wmich.edu/assessment/grants

Mini-Grant Projects (google.com)
(https://sites.google.com/wmich.edu/assessmentinactionconference22/mini-grant-projects)
Developing a Survey for History Graduate Students

- 10 questions soliciting graduate feedback on how students learned about the programs; the factors that led the students to admit to the history graduate programs; factors about funding; particular interest in a field of study; strengths and weaknesses, etc.

- Feedback is beneficial as we learn from the students’ perspective about the History M.A. and Ph.D. program

- Plan to administer the questionnaire in the spring 2024. We anticipate the survey will be most helpful in assessing our History M.A and Ph.D. programs

- Discuss the graduate program feedback to evaluate the future of our programs and thinking about graduate education
2023 Assessment Mini Grant: Exit Survey
Heather Petcovic, Department of Geological & Environmental Sciences

Goal: Develop and use exit survey questions for graduate and undergraduate programs

Nine CAS Chairs/ Directors
PI: Melinda Koelling, Math

Online surveys
Interviews
Focus groups

Graduate student focus groups

All students: annual/exit online survey
**Aligning Course Learning Outcomes with Program Learning Outcomes**

**Jessica Cataldo**

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<th>1b. Written format</th>
<th>2a. Lead</th>
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ASSESSMENT OF AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CLIMATE CHANGE FACULTY LEARNING COMMUNITY

Dr. Elise DeCamp

FLC Deliverables
Faculty learning community (FLC) participants submit updated syllabi & complete module templates with their planned revisions, assignments, and assessment plans. Feedback is provided prior to implementation.

Implementation
FLC participants implement their revisions in AY 2022–2023. Five of the ten participants (and I) voluntarily conduct pre- & post-student climate literacy & engagement surveys in their courses.

Debriefs & Assessment
Faculty submit debrief reports on implementation/pedagogical results. Grant-supported graduate student conducts extensive literature review to inform assessment of results.

Assess & Present
The survey instrument data, debrief reports, and literature (on FLCs, climate literacy, & curricular integration of climate change) are cross-compared and analyzed. Data are then reported at conferences.

Future Directions
Results have been published in peer-reviewed environmental education journal and conference proceedings. These results will inform future study of professional development and curricular integration of climate change.

Learning Community
Initial phase of facilitating and collecting pre- & post- surveys of climate change learning community faculty participants (10). The focus: New/revised course plans to focus 10%+ of the content on climate change.

MAY–AUG 2022

MAY–JUN 2023

FEB–APR 2023

JUL ‘23–NOW

FLC Deliverables

Implementation

Debriefs & Assessment

Assess & Present

Future Directions

AUG ‘22–APR ‘23

MAR–APR 2022

FEB–APR 2023

MAY–JUN 2023

Dr. Elise DeCamp

Initial phase of facilitating and collecting pre- & post- surveys of climate change learning community faculty participants (10). The focus: New/revised course plans to focus 10%+ of the content on climate change.
ASSESSMENT OF THE FULBRIGHT FOREIGN STUDENT PROGRAM AT WMU

Since 2010
~35 students annually
~20 countries
-MA & PhD Programs

SURVEY
Students & alumni, N=20

5 key Areas
- Fulbright Placement Agencies
- Academic Departments & Advisors
- Fulbright Foreign Student Advisor (FSA)
- Fulbright Student Organization (FSO)
- Alumni Relations
- Grad Assistant

NOTEWORTHY RESULTS

-FSA is effective
-Academics & advisors were positive
-Moderate to high levels of satisfaction with WMU but
issues with housing & health care
-Value in cultural activities x2
-More support before arriving from FSO
-Want more alumni connections

IMPACT OF THE GRANT

-Space to conduct an analysis & funds to hire a grad student
-Data offer a view into what is working & what needs to be added or improved
-Survey can be utilized again
-Data can be shared with placement agencies

Michelle Metro-Roland, PhD & Homayun Arian
Thank you to all of our presenters!

Time for questions.......