



Western Michigan University  
ScholarWorks at WMU

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Assessment Matters @ WMU

Assessment

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Spring 2014

## Assessment Matters #19, February 2014

Assessment in Action Committee

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## **ASSESSMENT MATTERS @ WMU**

*A newsletter of the University Assessment Steering Committee (UASC) to disseminate information on tools, education & training, and best practices for assessment at WMU.*

### **February 2014-Issue #19**

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Welcome! Please forward this to anyone that may have an interest in assessment of and for student learning. For suggestions or comments, contact Karen Stokes Chapo at:  
[karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu](mailto:karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu)

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### ***A Note from the Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies:***

Welcome to another edition of the Assessment in Action Newsletter. The big news for this edition is that our results for the 2013 National Survey on Student Engagement (NSSE) and Faculty Survey on Student Engagement (FSSE) are in. The results have already been shared with the academic advisors, associate deans, and the University Assessment Steering Committee (UASC). They will also be shared in the near future with the deans, chairs and Faculty Senate and posted on our web site. There is a great deal of information here that I hope that we, as a university, can use to improve the experience of our students. If you would like a summary of the results, please contact me at [david.reinhold@wmich.edu](mailto:david.reinhold@wmich.edu) and I'll send you a copy of what I think are the highlights. I can also supply you with the questions that were asked on the NSSE.

Best Wishes,  
Dave Reinhold  
Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies

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### ***WMU Assessment in Action Day Conference 2014***

Western Michigan University faculty, staff and graduate teaching assistants are invited to attend the fifth annual WMU Assessment in Action Day Conference on Friday, March 21 at the Fetzer Center. The conference, sponsored by the Office of Assessment and Undergraduate Studies, runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is free of charge, but registration is required for the luncheon. You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions, so feel free to come and go as your schedule permits. To register for the luncheon, click [here](#). (You will need to log in with your Bronco NetID and then scroll to the middle of the page for the WMU Assessment in Action Day 2014 Conference link.)

Included in the conference offerings are:

- A plenary session to include assessment questions to help you to determine how robust your assessments are
- Concurrent sessions geared toward department, program and college/division level assessment of student learning
- Focused sessions for academic departments, student support units and the assessment of graduate students
- Opportunities to learn how to develop effective assessment tools and to find out more about assessment resources at WMU and beyond
- Luncheon and networking opportunities
- Dessert and poster session highlighting the work of the 2013-14 Assessment Fellows
- Town hall meeting to give attendees the opportunity to share ideas on how we can advance assessment of student learning at WMU

**Please visit** the following website under the Assessment Calendar for more details and the complete schedule: [www.wmich.edu/assessment](http://www.wmich.edu/assessment), and for questions, contact Karen Stokes Chapo at: [karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu](mailto:karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu)

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### ***2013 WMU Assessment Survey – Results***

Last fall, all faculty, graduate teaching assistants and staff were sent an invitation to participate in the 2013 WMU Assessment Survey. The last time we implemented this survey was in 2008 and just as we did after that survey, we are planning to evaluate the results to look for ways to improve upon the education, services and outreach of both the University Assessment Steering Committee and the Office of Assessment and Undergraduate Studies. We plan to post the results and our findings on the Office of Assessment and Undergraduate Studies website in the next few months, so stay tuned! ([www.wmich.edu/assessment](http://www.wmich.edu/assessment)). And congratulations to Lenore Yaeger, from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences as she was the lucky winner of the Apple iPad mini! Thanks to Lenore and to all of you who participated in the survey. Your feedback and time are invaluable and most appreciated!

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### ***Upcoming Assessment Conferences***

The North Central Association Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) 2014 Annual Conference will be held in Chicago, IL from April 11 – 15, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. The Conference offers a broad range of sessions and services that include pre-conference workshops, approximately 100 general program sessions, an Exhibit Hall, and an Accreditation Share Fair. Each year, more than 4,000 administrators and faculty from more than 850 higher education institutions located throughout the 19-state HLC region attend the Annual Conference. For more information go to: [2014 Annual Conference Program](#)

And for information about other assessment-related conferences, click [here](#).

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### ***Call for Publications: WMU ScholarWorks***

If you have published an article or book or have presented on the topic of assessment of or for student learning, we would like to know about it! We would like to create a repository where we can share with our university community and others off campus the great work being done by our faculty, staff and students in this area. If you are interested in having your article or presentation posted on the WMU ScholarWorks Assessment page, please contact Karen Stokes Chapo at:

[karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu](mailto:karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu)

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### ***Assessment Web Site***

For information about assessment at WMU: Events, funding, handbook, resources, rubrics and support, go to [www.wmich.edu/assessment](http://www.wmich.edu/assessment)

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***ScholarWorks Assessment Page:*** <http://scholarworks.wmich.edu/assessment/>

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### ***Assessment Tip***

Good assessment does not always have to be unique! It's OK to borrow good ideas or adapt rubrics that have been created by others. The VALUES Rubrics from the AAC&U are a great place to start, as are the rubrics shared with WMU by Dr. Mary Allen. The AAC&U rubrics are linked on this website: <http://www.wmich.edu/assessment/resources.html> (under the Nationally Available Commercial Instruments for Assessment). You can also access Dr. Allen's library of sample rubrics by contacting Karen Stokes Chapo at: [karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu](mailto:karen.stokeschapo@wmich.edu)