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Assessment in Action Conference

Assessment

Spring 3-15-2019

2019 Western Michigan University Assessment in Action Conference

Office of Assessment and Undergraduate Studies

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Office of Assessment and Undergraduate Studies, "2019 Western Michigan University Assessment in Action Conference" (2019). *Assessment in Action Conference*. 65.

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Assessment in Action Conference

Friday, March 15, 2019
Fetzer Center

Conference Schedule and Descriptions

8:15-9 a.m.

Registration and Check-in

Lobby

9-10 a.m.

Room 1035/1045

Welcome and Introductions

Provost Jennifer Bott

Keynote Address

What's your Assessment—Why?

Dr. Jen Wells, Director of Assessment, Kennesaw State University



Accountability. Accreditation. Resources. Student Success. Student Learning. Student Development. External Factors. Program Review. All of these terms and more are associated with assessment. In this keynote, I want to go back to the why! Why is this important? Why should we do this? What is the **why** of assessment and how do our own experiences translate and transfer into the concept of continuous improvement.

2018-19 Assessment Fellows Brief Presentations

Brief overview of the 2018-19 Assessment Fellows grant-funded projects.

10-10:15 a.m. - Break

10:15-11:45 a.m.

Breakout Session I

Continuous Improvement in Academic Affairs

Room 2016/18

Presenter: Jen Wells

As faculty, we are asked to focus on teaching, research, and service; how we manage our work is often pre-determined by how we allocate time to these three elements. With that, the question is where assessment and continuous improvement fit. This presentation will offer a model of continuous improvement and ideas on how it can be integrated in your current work and not as a check the box exercise. We will also review how assessment can be scaffolded and implemented at the graduate level.

Writing and Connecting Learning Outcomes across the Co-Curricular Environment

Room 2020

Presenters: Marilyn Duke, Ciji Heiser, and Anthony Helms

This session focuses on the two primary areas of writing learning outcomes and then connecting outcomes to a co-curricular map. In the first part of the session, participants will work through a learning outcomes model to draft new outcomes or revisit existing outcomes and receive feedback from peers and session facilitators. In the second part of the workshop, the discussion will shift to how to connect learning outcomes across multiple programs and services to develop co-curricular maps. Outcome maps help staff identify areas of strength in student learning outcomes and gaps in outcome development. Participants will have the opportunity to review some sample co-curricular maps as well as begin work on their own mapping, again with the opportunity to receive feedback from peers and session facilitators.

11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.

Lunch, UASC Assessment Excellence Awards, Prize Raffle & Assessment Fellows Q & A Panel

Room 1035/1045

Join us for a luncheon, presentation of the University Assessment Steering Committee 2019 Assessment Excellence Award winners, prize raffle and an opportunity to network with colleagues from WMU and beyond.

We will also hear from an Assessment Fellows Grant recipients panel who will be sharing about their experiences with the grant program, including the application process, participating in the monthly meetings and more. There will be time for questions and answers.

1-1:30 p.m.

2018-19 Assessment Fellows Poster Session and Dessert

Lobby

View the 2018-19 Assessment Fellows posters and talk with the grant recipients about their projects, have dessert and mingle with colleagues.

1:30-3 p.m.

Breakout Session II

Continuous Improvement in Student Affairs

Room 2016/18

Presenter: Jen Wells

Imagine booking a trip but never getting on the plane, or buying a movie ticket but never walking into the theater. Or what if you fully planned a program, but you never executed it? Barring environmental or extraneous factors, it's hard to imagine not following through in these scenarios. Now, think about learning valuable information through an assessment project, but never using it. This should be equally unfathomable. The data collected in our assessments should be meaningful by informing our work and helping us continually improve. This presentation offers strategies on how to make data-informed decisions, demonstrate why this is the most important part of the assessment cycle, and review why you should share your results and the use of them with your entire college or university community.

Curriculum Mapping as a Path to Success

Room 2020

Presenters: Susan Caulfield, David Paul and Cindi Visscher

This workshop engages participants in a conversation about their knowledge and experience with curriculum mapping. Examples of curriculum mapping are provided, along with assessment outcomes related to such mapping. Participants will be asked to articulate a class or program-level outcome and workshop facilitators will be able to assist with the definition and creation of outcomes. Such outcomes will then be related back to curriculum mapping. Participants will leave with two different examples of curriculum mapping, as well as some experience in engaging the process of curriculum mapping.