

Annual Report to the Faculty Senate

Academic Assessment Committee Report on Activities AY 13-14

The committee continues to work toward improving the assessment practices on campus as well as the committee's review of the assessment reports. The committee is continuing with the 5 year cycle plan for review. To that end, for the 2013-14 academic year, the committee completed 24 full committee reviews of various programs on campus. Each assessment report was reviewed by the committee members and scored according to the rubric. Scores and comments were summarized and returned to the department submitting the report as part of the feedback.

In addition the committee continued to refine its scoring rubric for reports with the goal of consistency and increasing inter-rater reliability. In addition the committee made some changes to the reporting guidelines for the 2014-15 AY. The data collected by the committee is used for both the preparation of reports to NEASC and for reporting to the BOR. This year the guidelines include a summary table for the inputting of various components of the report. No new information is being requested, but rather this is seen as perhaps a simplification of the process. The table also assists in guiding departments on which data/information is relevant and required for BOR reporting.

This year the committee also attempted to begin doing partial committee reviews in an effort to provide more frequent feedback to the departments. Unfortunately time does not permit for the whole committee to review every report every year, hence the 5 year cycle. Now, a subset of reports are divided among the committee for review. These "raw data", are then shared with the department.

Moving forward, we are entering the 4th year of our 5 year cycle. Following this year, all departments will have officially entered into the cycle and will continue with the reporting schedule of Full report, followed by interim reports.

Respectfully submitted,

James Mulrooney
Chair, academic Assessment Committee