

OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT NEWSLETTER

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE OUTCOMES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Waubonsee Community College

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Happy Summer!



WRITTEN BY MOLLY DURAVA

The Outcomes Advisory Council (OAC) had a productive and transformative semester! We have made a lot of progress and look forward to continued progress using AEFIS, our assessment management system, in the fall.

Highlights from the spring semester include:

- World Café Part 2 Updates
- AEFIS Updates
- Positive reviews from our HLC Assessment Academy Mentors
- College Learning Outcomes (CLO) rubrics reinvention
- Assessment of student learning results and action plans across courses, departments and programs

The mission of the Outcomes Advisory Council (OAC) is to guide and support Waubonsee's outcomes assessment process both to continually improve teaching and learning and to help WCC meet accreditation standards. The primary goals of the OAC are to:

- recommend and promote guidelines related to outcomes assessment at the college;
- develop and communicate a culture of continuous improvement through teaching, learning, curriculum and instruction;
- support and provide feedback on training for outcomes assessment activities;
- provide input on the creation of an institutional outcomes assessment plan and encourage the use of high-impact institutional practices; and
- review institutional outcomes assessment data, provide feedback and recommendations for communication and next steps related to the data.

WHAT COULD I DO OVER THE SUMMER?

Congratulations on finishing off the semester. Now that you may have a bit more free time, here are some options to keep you on track with assessment for learning improvement for when you return in August:

1. Put all of your data in one place

When returning in the fall, it could be easy to forget where you put your assessment data from this year. Save the data in one folder on your computer. A good place would be in the APR-data folder created for each discipline and department. Only faculty have access to the data folders.

2. Think about what went well, or what could be improved

As it may be difficult to remember all of the details from your courses this year, jot down a few notes of what went well or what could be improved. You could also include this information on your Assessment Plan/Report that you began in fall 2018 to get a head start. These reports are located in APR_(Department Code), 2018-2019, 2. Assessment Plan Report.

3. Ask Questions

The summer is a great time to reach out to the Assessment Coordinator and begin to plan for the year ahead. Email mdurava@waubonsee.edu with questions.

OUTCOMES AND COURSE DESCRIPTION ALIGNMENT

This year, our Assessment Liaisons and the Assessment Coordinator reviewed all of our courses for alignment between outcomes and course descriptions to provide suggestions to faculty for consideration. After course outcomes were created in 2016, we learned that many did not align with our course descriptions. Course descriptions are important for our current students, prospective students, and other institutions for transfer review. Courses have evolved and improved over time which is the reason our new outcomes may not have aligned.

A total of 407 courses were presented and approved at Curriculum Council this year for outcomes and alignment. Many thought this was a worthwhile process to assure our descriptions were up-to-date. The review of outcomes and descriptions will now be embedded in our assessment plan/report to assure we review descriptions during the five-year assessment cycle. Thanks to all for your participation.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT DAYS PREVIEW AND AEFIS UPDATE



Assessment Management Platform

In spring 2018, OAC faculty selected AEFIS (Assessment, Evaluation, Feedback & Intervention System) to help navigate assessment for learning improvement across the college.

This coming fall semester at the Faculty Development Days, you will attend one AEFIS training over the course of the three days, to help you set up your account and learn to navigate the system.

We look forward to implementing AEFIS, which will be more efficient than our current processes and will provide more time for meaningful discussions regarding learning improvement.

WORLD CAFÉ PART 2 OVERVIEW AND FAQ SHEET



As you may recall, the OAC created rubrics to assess our College Learning Outcomes (CLOs) across all courses.

During fall 2018, rubrics were developed using the Association of American College and Universities (AAC&U)* VALUE Rubrics and the Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP). One-liners and Student I-CAN statements were also developed by the OAC. All of these documents can be found in APR_Tools, 2_Templates_Tools, CLOs, CLO Rubrics.

At the Spring 2019 Faculty Development Days, faculty reviewed the new rubrics using course assignments. This session provided valuable feedback and we look forward to hearing more about the use of the rubrics from this spring.

Additionally, feedback from the World Cafe Part 2 resulted in a creation of a FAQ sheet, with responses to the questions faculty presented at the workshop. The FAQ sheet can be found in APR_Tools, 2_Template_Tools, FAQs for CLOs Final.

*Waubonsee is now a member of AAC&U, which is a leading national association dedicated to a liberal education with a focus on quality and equity in undergraduate education. We will be able to participate in many of their quality programs and will share these with you via The Department of Faculty Development and Engagement.

ASSESSING ASSESSMENT REPORTS

WHY DO WE ASSESS?

TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING

Educational Affairs Plan

Goal 1: Ensure effective teaching practices, high quality educational experiences, and consistent learning outcomes across all courses, programs and services.

Strategy B

Enhance course-level assessment allowing for analysis of various modalities, locations, etc. to ensure quality

Action Step 2:

Assess quality of assessment plans and results.

In alignment with the Educational Affairs Plan, Goal 1, Strategy B2, the OAC created a rubric to assess the quality of assessment plans and results. The rubric created will also provide additional assessment guidance for learning improvement. The rubric will be included in the fall 2019 Assessment Plan/Report in AEFIS.

During Spring 2019, the OAC used the new rubric to assess the assessment reports submitted in December. OAC faculty also met with their programs and divisions to review the reports, provide guidance, and answer questions.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2018-2019 OUTCOMES ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ALL OF THEIR COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING LEARNING FOR OUR STUDENTS.

AMY FRANKEL ~ AMY POWERS ~ ANDREA SIEKIERSKI ~ ELIOR ISELI ~ HEATHER LACOST ~ JANETTE FUNARO ~ JEANNE MCDONALD ~ JOHN BITTERMAN ~ JULIE BECHTOLD ~ JUSTIN HOSHAW ~ KATHLEEN GORSKI ~ KATHLEEN RANDALL ~ LORRIE STAHL ~ MARJIE SCHOOLFIELD ~ MARK CLOUDEMANN ~ MELISSA MORGAN ~ MICHAEL MORAN ~ MICHELLE LINDQUIST ~ MOLLY DURAVA ~ SARAH QUIRK ~ SCOTT PESKA ~ SHARON GARCIA ~ SHAWN BALLEE ~ SPENCER BRAYTON ~ SUZETTE MURRAY ~ TRACY LIMBRUNNER

INTERESTED IN JOINING? CONTACT:

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