ASCC Assessment Panel

Approved Minutes

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 9:30am-11:00am

105 Bricker Hall

ATTENDEES: Giusti, Hawkins, Jenkins, Lam, Oldroyd, Rush, Samuels

1. Introduction and explanation of GE assessment

* Goals of GE assessment:
  + Internally, we are making sure that GE courses are meeting the Expected Learning Outcomes (ELOs).
  + We are also fulfilling an obligation of external accreditation.
  + GE assessment is not an evaluation of course content or instruction.
* The Panel reviewed and discussed a handout of the GE ELOs.
  + The ELOs will change under the new GE, but most of the foundations will be similar.
  + We are evaluating how well the courses met these ELOs. Some reports fail to address the ELOs and instead evaluate course goals or instruction instead.
* The Panel discussed the process of requesting assessment reports:
  + Course sets: The Panel chooses a sample of courses for select GE categories every year for assessment.
  + New GE courses: All new GE courses created 2014 or after submit an assessment report after the second offering.
  + Departmental reports: The Panel requests a report from a department with a large number of GE courses in a particular category.
* The Panel discussed quality examples of GE assessment plans and reports.
  + German foreign language assessment plan:
    - The department used rubrics, which are very useful for evaluating GE ELOs.
  + English 1110 assessment report:
    - The department went to great lengths to identify what they did, what they learned, and how they implemented changes. Interpretation of data is essential, and often overlooked in assessment reports.
    - They had a lot more resources than most departments have, so this level is not expected from the average course report.

1. Recap of last year’s activities

* The Panel worked on strategies for improvement of GE assessment, including developing best practices documents and discussions about improving the environment around assessment.
* The Panel discussed assessment under the new GE.
* Julia Hawkins attended all-chairs meeting and asked for chairs to take a larger role in assessment.
* Discussed partnering with University Institute of Teaching and Learning to improve assessment and use the Teaching Support Program to incentivize improved assessment.
* Going forward, the Panel will work with people on the GE implementation committee to make sure assessment is part of the GE.
* Worked on Qualtrics, which is in a pilot now. We are hoping to build Qualtrics into assessment to help systematize and simplify the process for departments.

1. Approval of 4-26-19 minutes

* Lam, Giusti, **approved** with two abstentions

1. Review reports:
   1. Statistics 2480

* Overall, the report is very good. It is clearly articulated, easy for faculty outside the field to understand, and provides interpretation and the department’s next steps. Data is provided separately for each campus, which is useful for comparison.
* The department used a pre and post-test with the same questions.
* Suggestion: In the future, the department may want to articulate why the standards for achievement (e.g. 70% to 79% considered good) were chosen.
  + Question: What are the best practices for choosing expected level of achievement? How can we guide departments in choosing the expected level of achievement that is appropriate for their course?
* Reminder: Department should include full GE ELOs on the syllabus and refer to the general education as the GE, not the GEC.
* Suggestion: If the questions were not graded (other than a completion grade), students may not have been motivated to do well on the assignment. The Panel suggests embedding questions in exams for the post-test.
* Overall, very good report that was very clearly articulated, easy to read and understand, even outside field and good interpretation