

Assessment Committee Report to Faculty Senate

Academic Year 2020-2021

Assessment Committee

Colorado Mesa University

Committee Members:

Denita Weeks, Chair

Chris Penick, Vice-Chair

Ana Berrizbeitia, Secretary

Olga Grisak

Eliot Jennings

Richard Scott

Christi Sanders Via

Gannon White

Jill Van Brussel

Suzie Garner

Rhema Zlaten

Lisa Friel-Redifer

Graham Anduri

Greg Baker

Morgan Bridge, AVPAA of Assessment and Accreditation (Ex-Officio)

Tim Pinnow, Senior Vice President of Strategic Initiatives/Director of Distance Education (Ex-Officio)

CMU Assessment Committee Mission Statement

The CMU Assessment Committee oversees the implementation and advancement of Essential Learning and Program Assessment of student learning and achievement.

The Committee's responsibilities per the Faculty Senate handbook are as follows:

1. Recommend assessment criteria and methods.
2. Research and reflect on current trends and best practices in assessment of student learning.
3. Support faculty within each department working to implement plans and reports in program assessment.
4. Assist programs to articulate student learning outcomes.
5. Verify that assessment results have been used for programmatic improvement.
6. Promote student learning assessment on all three campuses, on-line programs and early scholars programs.
7. Review assessment documents in the initial stages of program review, at the three-year interval and during the final program review in the six-year process. Draw inferences from the results and recommend methods of improvement of the learning experience.
8. Report to Faculty Senate the quality and effectiveness of the overall assessment process on a yearly basis.
9. Analyze results of national student surveys, make comparisons to previous years and make recommendations for the University.

Advancement of Student Learning Assessment at CMU

The Assessment Committee advanced the goals of student learning assessment by assisting programs with the implementation of all university SLOs into program-specific SLOs with an assessment plan and timeline for the newer SLOs: Personal and Social Responsibility & Information Literacy.

In addition, select members of the Assessment Committee and outside faculty participated in an Essential Learning Working Group formed by Morgan Bridge to review artifacts from ESSL courses from Fall 2020 and provide recommendation for changes to the assessment artifacts requested and collected from faculty. These recommendations were shared with Assessment Committee and ESSL Committee to improve the assessment of the ESSL program.

Assessment AY 2020-2021

During 2020-2021, Assessment Summaries and Program Reviews were temporarily put on hold due to COVID-19 curriculum changes. In lieu of program review, the Assessment Committee saw this as opportunity to focus on the incorporation of of the two newer institutional Student Learning Outcomes, Personal and Social Responsibility & Information Literacy, into individual programs assessment plans. Specifically, the Assessment Committee requested that programs submit their program-specific Student Learning Outcomes for Personal and Social Responsibility & Information Literacy and an assessment plan in Fall 2020. Feedback was provided to program chairs and a request to collect data as a test pilot during Spring 2021.

In addition, the Assessment Committee started requesting and compiling data for closing the loop across programs. A spreadsheet has been created for assessment committee members to add these data to so that a website can be developed to communicate the successes of the assessment process across campus.

Highlights in Program Assessment

The Assessment Committee received and provided feedback on program SLOs and Assessment Plans for Personal and Social Responsibility & Information Literacy for the following programs:

- Biological Sciences
- Kinesiology
- Anthropology & Geography
- Music
- Sociology
- Chemistry
- Criminal Justice
- Mass Communications
- Psychology
- Art & Design
- History
- Geology
- Mechanical Engineering Technology
- Teacher Education
- Physics
- Theater
- Computer Science
- Environmental Science
- Mathematics
- Health Sciences
- Political Science

2021-2022 Assessment Committee Plans

During the next academic year, the Assessment Committee plans to maintain the positive momentum in assessment that has developed. Following is a list of Assessment Committee activities planned for 2021-2022:

1. Return to normal Assessment Summary and Program Review cycles.
2. Review and provide feedback for 2021-2022 program reviews and third year progress reports.
3. Review SLOs for Professional Certificates.
4. Collect data from programs and provide feedback for the test pilot of new SLOs: Personal and Social Responsibility & Information Literacy
5. Monitor continuing progress on of all graduate, baccalaureate, associate and technical certificate program assessment plans.
6. Provide advice to faculty on data collection, reporting, etc, on an as-needed basis.
7. Work with the Essential Learning Committee & Essential Learning Working Group (formed in Fall 2020 to develop assessment of ESSL program) to implement recommendations provided based on the results of the assessment artifacts completed based upon the AACU Value Rubrics.
8. Implement Assessment Committee Representative as the ‘point person’ to communicate ESSL Assessment artifact requirements to programs.