Assessment Committee Report to Faculty Senate

Academic Year 2021-2022

Assessment Committee

Colorado Mesa University

Committee Members:

Chris Penick, Chair
Denita Weeks, Vice-Chair
Ana Berrizbeitia, Secretary
Greg Baker
Lisa Friel-Redifer
Suzie Garner
Adrian Herrera Escobar
Margaret Riley
Christi Sanders Via
Kristin Santos
Richard Scott
Elizabeth Sharp
Jill Van Brussel
Rhema Zlaten

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 implementing all university SLOs into program-specific SLOs.

Select members of the Assessment Committee and outside faculty continue to participate in an Essential Learning Working Group formed by Morgan Bridge to review artifacts from ESSL courses and provide recommendations 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 2021-2022

Assessment Summaries and Program Reviews were on hold during AY 2020-2021 due to COVID-19 curriculum changes. The 3- and 6-Year Assessment Summaries and Program Reviews were restarted during AY 2021-2022. There were eight (8) Assessment Summaries, five (5) Program Reviews, and four (4) SLO Reviews conducted during the academic year.

Many members new to the committee in either Academic Years 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 were unfamiliar with assessing the summaries and program reviews. One meeting session in Fall 2021 was dedicated to training the assessors and led to the decision to develop stand-alone training for new committee members in the future. A sub-committee was formed to begin planning and developing the training.

Related to the training, an initiative was started to "Change the Story" on Assessment. This is an attempt to make a short-form video for the campus community that explains the importance of Assessment and closing the loop. The intent is to inform the campus community of what the Assessment Committee is about, what it does, and how it can help.

After the assessments were complete, the committee discussed ways of making the assessment process quicker, easier, and more user-friendly for those completing and reviewing the assessments. A subcommittee was formed to explore the use of Qualtrics, or similar off-the-shelf software, for data entry and reporting and a D2L shell as a repository for assessments that the campus community could access to view examples of assessments across the campus and share best practices in reporting the data and closing the loop. This sub-committee will continue into the next Academic Year.

Highlights in Program Assessment

The Assessment Committee received and provided feedback on three- and six-year assessment summaries, program reviews, and SLO reviews for the following programs:

- 3 & 6-year Assessments:
    - Bachelor of Business Administration
    - Medical Laboratory Technology Program
    - Applied Anthropology and Geography
    - Master of Business Administration
    - Practical Nursing

- o Art & Design
- o English
- o History
- Program Review:
  - o Geosciences
  - o Spanish Program
  - o Bachelor of Business Administration
  - o Math
  - o Surgical Tech
- SLO Reviews:
  - o Doctor of Nursing Practice (SLO review)
  - o Master of Science in Nursing (SLO review)
  - o LPN to BSN (SLO review)
  - o Associates of Applied Science Nursing (SLO review)

2022-2023 Assessment Committee Plans

During the next academic year, the Assessment Committee plans to maintain the positive momentum in assessment that has developed. The following is a list of Assessment Committee activities scheduled for 2022-2023:

1. Review and provide feedback for 2022-2023 program reviews, third and six-year progress reports, and SLOs.
2. Review SLOs for Professional Certificates.
3. Develop and implement new assessor training materials
4. Continue to "Change the Story" on assessment
5. Continue to develop new and improved methods for collecting, reviewing, and sharing assessments
6. Collect data from programs and provide feedback for the targeted SLO: Critical Thinking
7. Monitor continuing progress on all graduate, baccalaureate, associate, and technical certificate program assessment plans.
8. Provide advice to faculty on data collection, reporting, etc., on an as-needed basis.
9. Continue work with the Essential Learning Committee & Essential Learning Working Group (formed in Fall 2020 to develop an assessment of the ESSL program) to implement recommendations provided based on the results of the assessment artifacts completed based upon the AACU Value Rubrics.