DHE Learning Outcomes Assessment Update

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Mass. Department of Higher Education
December 2, 2016
First meeting held September 29 at UMass Lowell:
- Dr. Patricia O’Brien SND from NEASC and the role of assessment in accreditation
- Determining the charge for Amcoa for 2016–2017

Next meetings will be:
- February 2, 2017; snow date February 17 (Middlesex Community College)
- March 31, 2017 (Quinsigamond Community College)

The Annual Assessment Conference will be April 21, 2017.

Sites under consideration include:
- The Hogan Center at Holy Cross College
- Southbridge Conference Center
Task Force on Statewide Assessment

- Met on October 18 at Framingham State University
  - Engaged discussion about how to continue to advance the culture of assessment in public higher education in Massachusetts given external and internal constraints
  - Animated discussion about institutional challenges to advancing the culture of assessment based on an article by Dr. Laurie Occhipinti from Mount Wachusett Community College from *Thought & Action*, Summer 2016.

- Scheduled an additional meeting for January 19, 2017 (Quinsigamond Community College) in addition to the previously scheduled meeting on March 10, 2017 at Worcester State University
Mass. Team

- We have decided to merge the Mass. Team back into the Task Force:
  - Membership survey (67% response rate) noted a lack of consensus of the role, tangible outcomes, or charter
  - Membership is duplicative of Amcoa, the Task Force, and the state-level MSC Steering Committee
  - No specific state-wide assessment need that is currently uncovered
Multi-State Collaborative to Advance Quality Student Learning

- Eleven Massachusetts participants
- Mass. planning meeting held October 27
- Still trying to create an opportunity for small institutions (enrollment of less than 1,200)
- Mass. institutions are submitting their sample plans for approval and will have access to their institutional data by next week
- Webinar scheduled for December 7 to review the Demonstration Year (2015–2016) national data
- Most participants will collect artifacts in spring 2017.
Faculty Collaboratives

- Mass. Transfer Pathways:
  - Validate and distribute learning outcomes for Biology, Chemistry (Intro. to Chemistry I/II), and Economics foundation courses (by March 2017)
  - Create and distribute learning outcomes for foundational courses for Chemistry (Intro. To Organic Chemistry I/II), History, Political Science, and Psychology (by April 2017); and for English and Sociology (by May 2017).
  - Create an assessment informational HUB
  - Develop an Assessment 101 course
Faculty Collaboratives

- MTP Teleconference Kickoff Meetings held as follows:
  - Economics: Jan. 4 at 1:00pm
  - Chemistry: Jan. 5 at 10:00am
  - Biology: Jan. 5 at 1:00pm
  - Psychology: Jan. 11 at 10:00am
  - History: Jan. 24 at 3:00pm
  - Political Science: Feb. 6 at 1:00pm

- Creating an assessment Informational HUB working with DHE Web Designer
Assessment 101 – Sample

- Assessment vocabulary
- Learning outcomes
- Formative vs. summative assessment
- Direct vs. indirect assessment
- Collecting evidence
- Rubrics
- Backward design
- Assignment design
Closing & Thank You

- Questions & Answers
- What needs do you have that I can address?
- How can I be more of assistance to your efforts?

THANK YOU!