

AMCOA Team Meeting: FY25 in Review

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Assistant Commissioner for Academic Effectiveness

September 19, 2025



MASSACHUSETTS
Department of
Higher Education

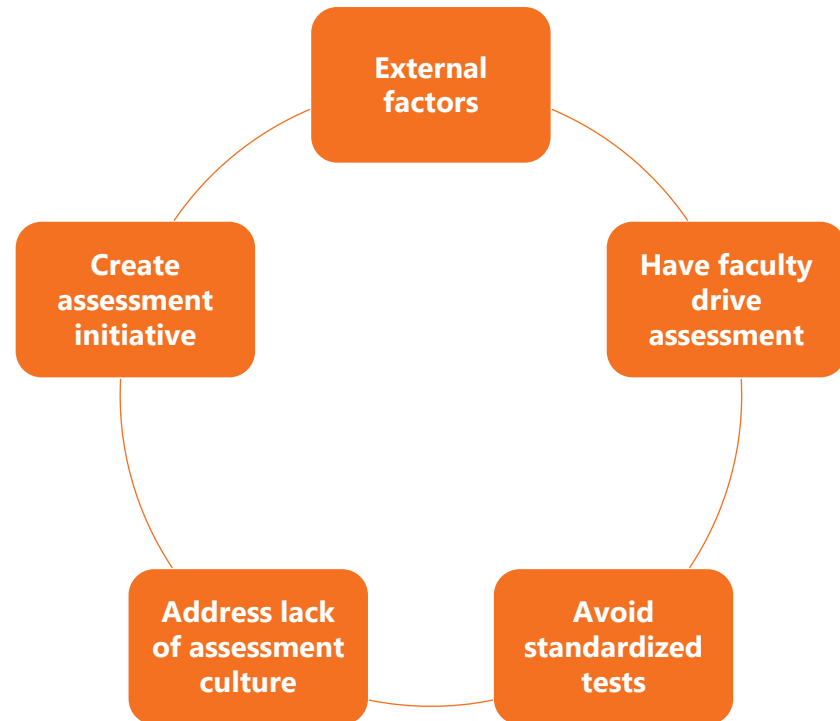
Amcoa Team Defined

- **A**dvancing a
- **M**assachusetts
- **C**ulture
- **O**f
- **A**ssessment

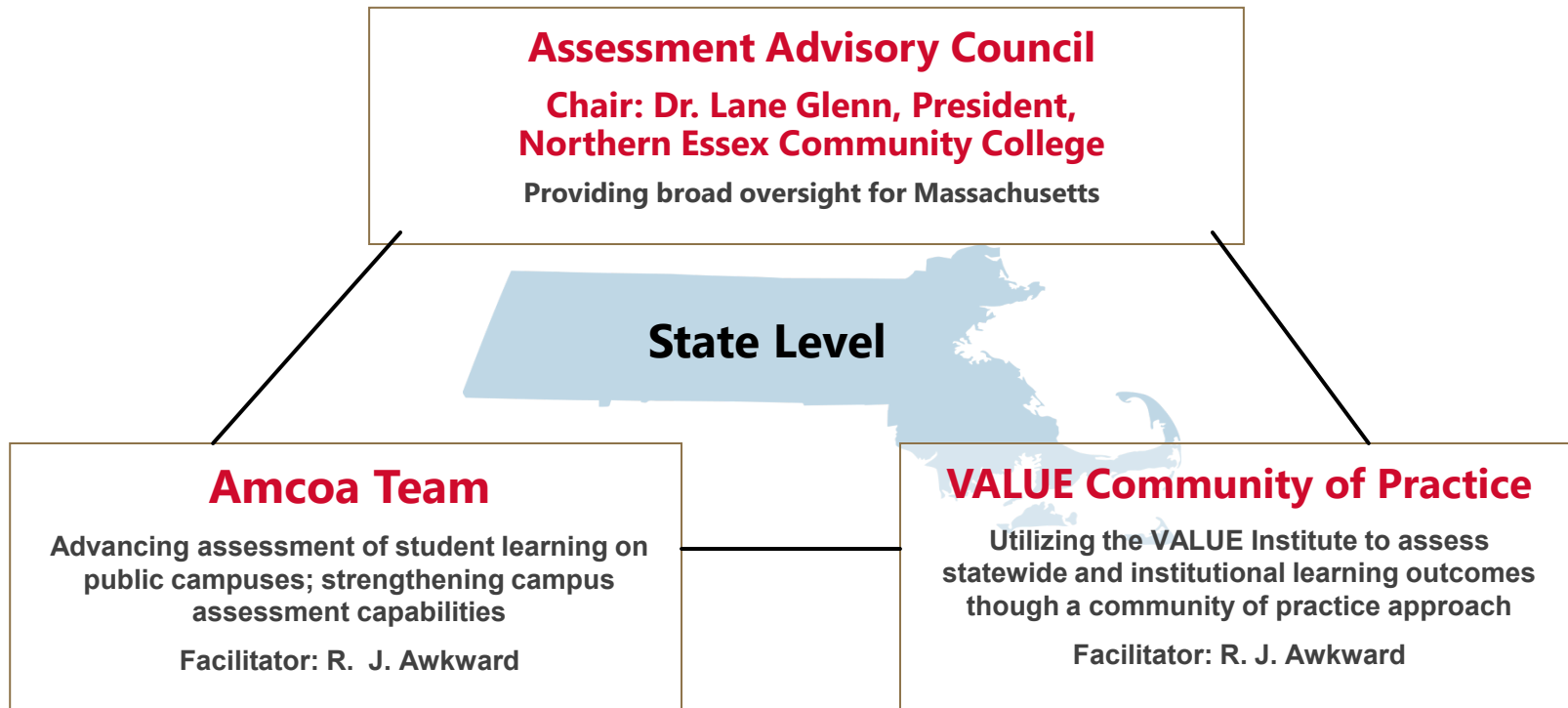
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Brief History

- Working Group on Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment established the following in January 2010:



Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Organizing Structure



Elements of our Assessment Platform

(mass.edu/strategic)

- **Assessment Advisory Council**

- [Assessment Advisory Council / Student Learning Outcomes / Strategic Initiatives / Massachusetts Department of Higher Education](#)

- **MassTransfer Pathways Foundational Learning Outcomes**

- [MassTransfer Pathways Foundational Learning Outcomes / Student Learning Outcomes / Strategic Initiatives / Massachusetts Department of Higher Education](#)

- **Student Learning Outcomes (Amcoa Team)**

- [Student Learning Outcomes / Strategic Initiatives / Massachusetts Department of Higher Education](#)

- **VALUE Institute**

- [Value Institute History / Student Learning Outcomes / Strategic Initiatives / Massachusetts Department of Higher Education](#)

What are the Benefits of Amcoa?

- Shared learning:
 - Statewide
 - Regionally
- Cost-effective program delivery
- Sharing best practices
- Reducing redundancies
- Opportunities for co-creation of knowledge

Who is Amcoa?

- The Amcoa Team (mass.edu/strategic/amcoa)
 - [Student Learning Outcomes / Strategic Initiatives / Massachusetts Department of Higher Education](#)
- Founded in 2011 through a Davis Foundation grant (Dr. Peggy Maki led this work)
- Typically three representatives from each of the 28 undergraduate-serving institutions
- There is also an Assessment Advisory Council comprised of one representative from each of the 28 undergraduate-serving institutions. Focus is on statewide assessment policy

Quarterly Meetings

- **Sept. 27, 2024**

- FY23 Amcoa in Review and the State of Assessment in Massachusetts
- Assessment Topics Roundtable Discussions

- **Nov. 15, 2024**

- Dr. Laura M. Gambino, Vice President, NECHE
- Regional Group Breakout Sessions

- **Feb. 7, 2025**

- “Enhancing Qualitative Research in Higher Education Assessment through Generative AI Integration: A Path Toward Meaningful Insights and a Cautionary Tale,” authored and conducted by Dr. Ruth C. Slotnick, Director of Assessment and Joanna Z. Boeing, Assistant Director of Assessment, Bridgewater State University

13th Annual Assessment Conference

Real Talk: Assessing Learning in the Age of AI

- Friday, April 25, 2025
- DoubleTree Boston Westborough, Westborough, MA
- Keynoter:
 - Dr. Lance Eaton, Senior Associate Director of AI in Teaching & Learning, Northeastern University
- Public and private presenters
- 96.4% rated the usefulness of the conference as Very Satisfied/Satisfied (based on a 31% response rate)

Regional Professional Development

■ **Boston Metro Region**

- Bunker Hill Community College, Framingham State University, Mass. Bay Community College, Mass. Art & Design, Roxbury Community College, UMass Boston
- *Assessing Equity Across the Curriculum and Co-curriculum Divide*
- Dr. Stephanie Akunvabey, Chief Diversity Officer, Associate Vice President of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Pace University
- April 18, 2025

■ **Central Region**

- Fitchburg State University, Mount Wachusett Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester State University
- *Ensuring All Students are Learning: Exploring Direct and Competency-Based Assessment Practices*
- Dr. Laura Gambino, Vice President, NECHE
- February 28, 2025

■ **North Region**

- Middlesex Community College, North Shore Community College, Northern Essex Community College, Salem State University, UMass Lowell
- *Strengthening Academic Quality from NECHE Standards to Campus Success*
- Dr. Laura Gambino, Vice President, NECHE
- April 18, 2025

Regional Professional Development

- **Southeast Region**

- Bridgewater State University, Bristol Community College, Cape Cod Community College, Mass. Maritime Academy, Massasoit Community College, UMass Dartmouth
- *The Intersection of Metrics, Institutional Research, Offices of Assessment, Instructional Design, Faculty Development & Evidence of Academic Success*
- Drs. Mamta Saxena, Senior Associate Dean, Decision Support & Academic Quality; Asim Javad, Educational Data Analyst; and Joe Reilly, Assistant Teaching Professor, College of Professional Studies, Northeastern University
- February 19, 2025

- **Western Region**

- Berkshire Community College, Greenfield Community College, Holyoke Community College, Mass. College of Liberal Arts, Springfield Technical Community College, UMass Amherst, Westfield State University