DHE Learning Outcomes Assessment Update

Dr. Robert Awkward
Director of Learning Outcomes Assessment
Mass. Department of Higher Education
February 2, 2017
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

Second meeting held December 2 at Holyoke Community College:
- Dr. Maureen O’Shea, Cape Cod Community College and Inter-Rater Reliability
- DHE Updates
- Finalized Amcoa’s charge for 2016–2017

Next meetings will be:
- February 2, 2017; snow date February 17 (Middlesex Community College)
- March 31, 2017 (Quinsigamond Community College)
Amcoa 6th Annual Assessment Conference

- The Annual Assessment Conference will be April 21, 2017:
  - Dr. Susan Albertine, Senior Scholar, AAC&U to be keynote speaker
  - Dr. Natasha Jankowski, Director, NILOA, and Research Assistant Professor with the Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership at the University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign
  - Learning Assessment Research Consortium (LARC)
  - Fellow assessment directors, deans, and faculty presenters
  - Programming being designed using MSC results

- Sites under consideration include:
  - Boxborough Regency
  - Westborough Doubletree
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.

Met on January 19, 2017 at Quinsigamond Community College:
- Reviewed the MSC vs. Mass. results and action recommendations
- Presented the Excellence in Assessment certification

Final scheduled meeting on March 10, 2017 at Worcester State University
Multi-State Collaborative to Advance Quality Student Learning

- Eleven Massachusetts participants
- Mass. planning meeting held October 28 and January 17, 2017.
- Taskforce Webinar held December 7 to unveil MSC Project (i.e., national) data for the Demonstration Year (2015–2016)
- Most participants will collect artifacts in spring 2017.
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).
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
# Informational HUB

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Advancing a Massachusetts Culture of Assessment

- **Learning Assessment Research Consortium:**
  - Free, modular, online learning outcomes assessment training program
  - Modules include:
    - Assessment benefits & barriers
    - Demystifying assessment
    - Goals and objectives
    - Gathering data
    - Using assessment data
    - Developing sustainable assessment practices
  - Met the design team on January 30, 2017.
  - To be presented at the Annual Amcoa Conference in April.
Advancing a Massachusetts Culture of Assessment

- Recommendation supported.
- Concept to be presented at the Amcoa Annual Conference by Dr. Natasha Jankowski, Director of NILOA
Questions & Answers

What needs do you have that I can address?

How can I be more of assistance to your efforts?