

Outcomes Assessment Committee Report to Faculty, 4/27/16

Academic Year 2015-2016

Helpful Resource

College Assessment website: <https://www.ursinus.edu/offices/academic-affairs/assessment/>

Includes links to the current Core's learning goals, criteria, and rubric; guidelines for W, oral presentation, and capstone requirements within the major; template and instructional handout for departments' Annual Reviews; a FAQ about assessment; an archive of previous OAC communications and documents; and Institutional Research and Effectiveness information.

Committee Activities, 2015-2016

- Read all academic departments' annual reviews
- Offered feedback and advice to each department about their previous year's review and their current year's assessment plan
- Compiled records of all department visits
- Analyzed data from National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
- Advised to postpone Higher Education Data Sharing (HEDS) survey until 2016-2017 in order to focus on data already collected
- Reviewed and approved Core Curriculum assessment schedule
- Revised and disseminated suggested Senior Exit Interview questions and departments' Annual Review form
- Supported Core Curriculum assessment efforts in summer

What to expect if you serve on the Outcomes Assessment Committee

Fall

- Monthly meetings
- Read and analyze 5-8 departments' Annual Review forms; meet with those departments to discuss their assessment plans

Spring

- Monthly meetings
- Offer advice to departments who request it, on an ad hoc basis

As Needed/Ongoing

- Review, discuss, and present data from national surveys that Ursinus participates in; discuss the efficacy, necessity, relative usefulness of such surveys
- Review and suggest revisions for Ursinus's internal survey instruments, like the Senior Exit Interview, and reporting templates, like the academic departments' Annual Review form
- Learn and discuss assessment concepts: creating measurable and challenging learning goals, devising manageable assessments to gauge student learning, making meaningful changes based on assessment results. (Good opportunity for faculty development and more assessment know-how that you can bring back to your department; sometimes leads to perks like first dibs on assessment-related conferences and the occasional free book.)

Charge of the Committee

The committee consults with departments to design and administer assessment strategies. At a college-wide level, the committee reviews the efficacy and appropriateness of assessment measures with the Director of Institutional Research, assists in interpreting data from these measures, and communicates results to campus constituencies. The committee recommends priorities for program assessment to the Dean of the College, Academic Council, CPPC and/or appropriate committees to be considered in formulating future plans and policies for the college.

Committee Membership, 2015-2016

Talia Argondezzi, Director of the Center for Writing and Speaking

Annemarie Bartlett, Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Andy Economopoulos, Business and Economics

Kate Goddard, Biology

Jamie Hartop, Student

Becky Kohn, Associate Dean

T.C. Mack, Staff Therapist, Wellness Center

Óscar Useche, Modern Languages