

OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT UPDATE



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Colloquium

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

12:30-2:00, Alger 110

"Using Assessment Activities as the Foundation for Journal Articles"

RSVP:

scarter@ric.edu

- or -

Assessment@ric.edu

General Education Assessment

The project of assessing the General Education program is in its third year!

Last fall, on, October 29, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. during the GE Assessment

Colloquium, Jim Magyar, Stephanie Costa, Quenby Hughes, and Julie Urda members presented the most recent results of as-

sessing Critical and Creative Thinking, Research Fluency, and Written Communication in First Year Seminar and First Year Writing.

Currently, COGE is preparing to pilot test the assessment of the Collaborative Work and Oral Com-

munication learning outcomes.

Data will be analyzed during the summer, and results will be presented to faculty in the fall.

Please email (COGE@ric.edu) or call 456-9697 with expressions of interest or questions.

NSSE

By Chris Hourigan

NSSE (the National Survey of Student Engagement) is being administered to RIC freshmen and seniors for the sixth time since 2005 this spring. Email invitations to students were sent on February 17th, and students received several additional e-mail reminders between then and

March 23rd. The survey will remain open until June 1st, so students may respond up to that date. Please encourage your students to respond. Twenty survey respondents will win a \$25 Amazon gift card. Results from the 2013 administration of NSSE may be found

here: <http://www.ric.edu/assessment/nsse.php>. Questions about NSSE should be sent to Christopher Hourigan, Director of Institutional Research and Planning, at chourigan@ric.edu.

Did You Know

Rhode Island College participates in the Complete College Rhode Island program, which advocates for: accelerated time to degree; predictable schedules; and guided pathways to success.

<http://completecollege.org/>

Did You Know

Governor Raimondo has nominated five people to the Rhode Island Board of Education, two of whom are designated to oversee higher education: James Karam, of Tiverton, president and CEO of First Bristol Corp; and The Rev. Jeffrey Williams, of Cranston, founder of King's Cathedral, who has been re-nominated. In addition, Barbara Cottam, executive vice president for Citizens Financial Group has been nominated to replace Eva-Marie Mancuso.

CASO - The Committee on Assessment of Student Outcomes

CASO strives to have representation from across campus, and in the past year, we have added one new member, Lisa Church.

Welcome Lisa!

<http://www.ric.edu/assessment/caso.php>

The other members of CASO are: Pat Thomas (Professor, Nursing), Nancy Cloud (Professor, Educational Studies), Lloyd Matsumoto (Professor, Biology), Scott Kane (Vice President for Student Affairs), Shani Carter, (Professor, Management)

Ron Pitt (Vice President for Academic Affairs), Becky Caouette (Associate Professor, English / Director of Writing), Christopher Hourigan (Director, Institutional Research and Planning), and Mikaila Arthur (Associate Professor, Sociology).

Co-Curricular Assessment

By Kristen Salemi

A Co-curricular Transcript committee was established last semester to develop a construct for students to track learning and skills development obtained as a result of involvement in out-of-

classroom activities. Four outcomes identified include: Professional Development; Leadership Development; Multicultural Competence; and Social Responsibility. The committee, chaired by Kristen Salemi, Director of the

Student Union, recently prepared a draft rubric for the Leadership Development outcome and plans to pilot the rubric using test groups of student leaders.

Annual Assessment Reports

All academic majors and programs are required to submit annual reports of their assessment activities using the

template provided on the CASO web site. This year, we are requesting the reports be submitted by June 1 rather than July 1. The earlier dead-

line was suggested by department chairs to enable them to receive input and assistance from their department colleagues.

Certificates

Currently, RIC offers 26 certificates, with at least one certificate being offered in each of the five schools. Of the 26, 18 are graduate certificates, 17 of which are CGS and one of which is CAGS in School Psychology. RIC

also offers 8 undergraduate certificates (CUS) in a variety of fields.

Certificate programs are being added to the RIC assessment activities, as per NEASC guidelines. This year, program directors are asked to submit lists of

learning goals and assessment activities. Programs with significant enrollment will begin conducting assessment during the 2015-2016 academic year.

First Year Students

The intentions of first-year students have been measured by the CIRP Freshmen Survey annually since 1966, which is administered by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA. It is useful for faculty and staff to be aware of students' intentions because these intentions may impact student course performance, retention, graduation rates, and participation in co-curricular activities.

For example, of first-year

students at moderately selective public colleges, 35.6% believe they will need more than 4 years to complete their degree, compared to 7.7% in 2000. Faculty can improve 4-year graduation rates by advising students to complete 15 credits per semester.

Further, 26.0% of first-year students at moderately selective public colleges intend to transfer to another college, compared to 9.5% in 2000. Faculty and staff can

increase student retention by encouraging students to participate in co-curricular activities.

Of all first-generation, first-year college students in 2014, 74.1% plan to pursue graduate education, compared to 80.5% in 2000 and 48.2% in 1966. Faculty can prepare students for graduate school by having students participate in honors projects. The CIRP reports may be found here: <http://www.heri.ucla.edu/tfsPublications.php>

Internships, Practicum, and Field Experiences

The RIC mission and vision statements indicate, "Dedicated faculty engage students in learning, research, and career attainment, and our innovative curricula and co-curricula foster intellectual curiosity and prepare an educated citizenry for responsible leadership," and, "The college will be known for the

expertise and leadership of its faculty, students and alumni; for its adaptability to the changing social and economic environment; and for its collective impact on Rhode Island's economy and culture."

Many academic programs aim to achieve these goals of preparing students for responsible leadership by offering internships, practi-

cum, and field experiences for students to gain practical experiences that will foster their transition to post-graduation life.

We are gathering information on which programs offer these experiences, and so far, we have determined that more than 30 programs offer these experiences, almost all of which are for academic credit.

This spring/summer, RIC will be conducting its second annual survey of undergraduate alumni, one year out, to gather information regarding their employment, educational, and other outcomes. The Office of Institutional Research & Planning is managing this project, and details will follow.

By Chris Hourigan

NEEAN: New England Educational Assessment Network

The NEEAN 11th Annual Summer Academic Assessment Institute will be held at Keene State College, Keene New Hampshire, Thursday, June 11, 10:00 AM through Friday June 12, 2:30 PM, 2015

Plenary: Dr. Maryellen Weimer, Professor Emerita, Penn State Berks. Her

book is titled: Learner-Centered Teaching: Five Key Changes to Practice.

Departments are encouraged to send teams to the Institute, because time is given during the two days of the Institute for team meetings to discuss their own assessment plans with the guidance of NEE-

AN board members.

See the NEEAN website for more information.

<http://www.neean.org/>

Funding is provided the VPAA. Send email to scarcer@ric.edu if you would like to attend.

Upcoming Conferences

There are many conferences offered throughout the year on outcomes assessment, many of which are held in New England. Funding to attend is often available via the office of the VPAA. Send email to Shani Carter at scarter@ric.edu or to assessment@ric.edu for information.

AAC&U—Association of American Colleges and Universities.

2015 PKAL Summer Leadership Institute for STEM Faculty
July 14 – July 19, 2015, Adamstown, Maryland, www.aacu.org

AACSB—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business

Assessment Seminar
June 03, 2015 - June 04, 2015, Tampa, Florida, www.aacsb.edu

AERA—American Educational Research Association

Annual Meeting: Toward Justice: Culture, Language, and Heritage in Education Research and Praxis
April 16 - 20, 2015, Chicago, Illinois, www.aera.net

AAHLE—Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education

Annual Assessment Conference
June 1-3, 2015 Lexington, Kentucky, <http://aalhe.org>

AIR—Association for Institutional Research

AIR Annual Forum
May 25-29, 2015 Denver, CO <http://forum.airweb.org/2015/pages/home>

ANNY—Assessment Network of New York

Annual Conference,
April 29 – May 1, 2015, Dobbs Ferry, New York, <http://www.oneonta.edu/anny/>

Council of Chief State School Officers

National Summit on Educator Effectiveness
April 14-16, 2015, Atlanta, GA, LA http://www.ccsso.org/News_and_Events/

International Educational Technology Conference

2015 IET Conference
May 27-29, Istanbul, Turkey, www.iet-c.net

National Institute for Testing and Evaluation, International Association for Education Assessment

IAEA Annual Conference
October 11-15, 2015, Lawrence, Kansas, <http://www.iaea.info/index.aspx>

NEEAN—New England Educational Assessment Network, <http://neean.org/>

Dialogues in the Disciplines, Friday, March 13, 2015, UMass Amherst, MA.
Summer Institute, Thursday & Friday, June 11 and 12, 2015, at Keene State, NH.
Fall Forum Information, TBA, November, 2015, the College of Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.

NEFDC—New England Faculty Development Consortium

Teaching & Learning in Higher Education Conference
Friday, May 29, 2015, Fairfield, Connecticut, <https://www.nefdc.org/>

Other Professional Organizations

Assessment Institute in Indianapolis
<http://www.assessmentinstitute.iupui.edu/index.shtml>

National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA)
<http://www.learningoutcomeassessment.org/>

Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS)
www.cas.edu

Virginia Assessment Group
<http://www.virginiaassessment.org/>