

General Education Assessment Update - March 3, 2016 (revised March 29, 2016)

Respectfully submitted by Debra Jackson, GE Assessment Coordinator

This report summarizes the current status of the assessment of the general education program. It is divided into four sections, representing the current goals of GE assessment efforts.

1. Completing the assessment cycle of the outgoing GE program

The various campus assessment coordinators—Debra Jackson (GE), Carol Dell'Amico (AH), Lori Paris (BPA), Charles Lam (NSME), and Michael Ault (SSE)—have worked with faculty members across campus to update assessment reporting in TaskStream for previous years and to identify which learning outcomes need to be assessed to complete a full assessment cycle by the end of AY 15/16.

- **Area A:** Twenty-four of the thirty course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Of the remaining six learning outcomes, four are being assessed this year. Faculty in AH are collecting data this Winter and will be scoring student artifacts in the Spring. The remaining two learning outcomes are combined with others in the new GE program. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.
- **Area B1-B3:** All eleven of the course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.
- **Area B4:** All four course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.
- **Area C:** Five out of seven course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. The remaining two learning outcomes are being assessed this year. Faculty across AH are collecting data this Winter and will be scoring student artifacts in the Spring. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.
- **Area D:** Six out of nine course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Of the remaining three learning outcomes, two will be assessed this year. Faculty in SSE are collecting data this Winter and will be scoring student artifacts in the Spring. The remaining one learning outcome will not be assessed since it has been combined with four other outcomes in the new GE program. Assessment reporting for 10/11 and 11/12 is up-to-date. Assessment reporting for 12/13 through 14/15 will be updated in the next month.
- **Theme I:** All eleven of the course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.
- **Theme II:** Five out of seven course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. The remaining two learning outcomes are being assessed this year. Faculty across AH are collecting data this Winter and will be scoring student artifacts in the Spring. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.
- **Theme III:** All three of the course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Assessment reporting for 10/11 and 11/12 is up-to-date. Assessment reporting for 12/13 through 14/15 will be updated in the next month.
- **AI-Government:** Three out of four course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. The remaining learning outcome is being assessed this year. Faculty in SSE and BPA are

collecting data this Winter and will be scoring student artifacts in the Spring. Assessment reporting for 10/11 and 11/12 is up-to-date. Assessment reporting for 12/13 through 14/15 will be updated in the next month.

- **AI-History:** Five of the twelve course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Of the remaining seven learning outcomes, two of these should be assessed this year. The other five have been combined with others in the new GE program. Plans to assess these two outcomes have stalled. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 13/14 is up-to-date.
- **CIL:** One of the thirty-three course learning outcomes has been assessed at least once. No efforts to continue assessment of this UWR are in place since this requirement is not part of the new GE program.
- **FLPR:** One of the three course learning outcomes has been assessed at least once. No efforts to continue assessment of this UWR are in place since this requirement is not part of the new GE program.
- **FYE:** Ten of the nineteen course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Of the remaining nine outcomes, two should be assessed this year. The other seven are not part of the new GE program. Faculty will collect assessment data this Spring. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.
- **GRE:** Three of the five course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. No efforts to continue assessment of this UWR are in place since this requirement is not part of the new GE program.
- **GWAR:** Six of the thirteen course learning outcomes have been assessed at least once. Of the remaining seven outcomes, four are being assessed this year. Faculty across AH and BPA are collecting data this Winter and will be scoring student artifacts in the Spring. The remaining three outcomes have been combined with others in the new GE program. Assessment reporting for 10/11 through 14/15 is up-to-date.

2. Create the infrastructure to support long-term assessment activities

In Fall 2015, Senem Saner (Critical Thinking leader), Becky Larson (Quantitative Reasoning leader) and John Tarjan (new GuidePost Series leader) attended the WASC retreat on the Core Competencies, on November 19-20, 2015, in Pomona, CA.

3. Acquire baseline assessment data.

Baseline assessment data for the foundational skills has been collected.

- **Oral communication:** Student oral presentations in eight senior seminar courses taught during Winter 2015 and Spring 2015 were video recorded. A team of seven faculty members scored a sample of the collected artifacts on June 17, 2015, using an oral communication rubric.
- **Written Communication and Critical Thinking:** GWAR exams from Winter 2015 and Spring 2015 were collected. A team of five faculty members scored a sample (50) of the collected artifacts on December 7, 2015, using a written communication and critical thinking rubric.
- **Critical Thinking:** A three-question critical thinking test was administered to students in the Winter 2015 offerings of BA 374, CRJU 340, ECON 310, PHIL 316, RS 378. A team of five faculty

members scored a sample (60) of the collected artifacts (168) on June 18, 2015, using a critical thinking rubric.

- **Quantitative Reasoning:** A ten-question quantitative reasoning test was administered to students in the Winter 2015 offering of SCI 351C and the Spring 2015 offering of SCI 352A. A team of five faculty members scored a sample of the collected artifacts on June 17, 2015, using a quantitative reasoning rubric.

A report of assessment findings will be entered in a new GE program workspace in TaskStream.

4. Develop an assessment plan for the new GE program

In place of course level assessment, the new GE program will be assessed at the program level, using the GE program learning outcomes (PLOs) approved on February 6, 2015. Two PLOs will be assessed each year.

Plans are underway to assess PLO 2A and 3B in AY 16/17:

- 2A. Students will apply the principles, concepts, and methods of the natural sciences, arts and humanities, and social and behavioral sciences.
- 3B. Students will explain key historical events and institutions of the United States.

Four teams of faculty will meet in Spring 2016 to develop the tool and rubric for assessing these learning outcomes:

- A team of faculty from NSME will work to assess 2A in Area B courses;
- A team of faculty from AH will work to assess 2A in Area C courses;
- A team of faculty from SSE and BPA will work to assess 2A in Area D courses; and
- A team of faculty from AH, SSE, and BPA will work to assess 3B in AI-History and AI-Government courses.

Using the tools developed in these teams, student artifacts will be collected from Fall 2016 courses, and these artifacts will be scored by these teams in Spring 2017 using the rubric they developed.