

Assessment Times

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A BIG Thank You to

all assessment coordinators. department chairpersons, and deans for submitting the annual academic program assessment reports. Your hard work and dedication are essential for building a systematic and sustainable foundation for assessment practices at Bowie State!



In the next edition...

University Student Learning Assessment Committee (USLAC)

Introducing Academic Programs Assessment Staff

Dr. Becky Verzinski, Assistant President

Vice

for

Assessment, provides direction and feedback to faculty, programs, academic assessment coordinators, and campus committees to plan and implement appropriate assessment tools to measure and improve student learning across the curriculum. She has served in the AVPA role since February. Academic programs assessment is funded through a Title III/ SAFRA grant.

Ms. Jacquelyn Solomon joined the Academic Programs Assessment staff as an administrative assistant in July and provides support to



the AVPA and APA. She has over 25 years of work experi-

ence in various fields such as human resources, child development, multimedia production, and community-based programs.



How to contact us...

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Faculty Spotlight ~ DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS



Dr. Pam O'Brien

KUDOS to Drs. O'Brien and Krishnasamv for their leadership and commitment to improving their general education courses: COMM 101 & COMM 103. After reviewing the course offerings this past spring, they implemented the following action plan for fall 2012 to improve student learning as it relates to oral communication skills: a revised standard syllabus with common learning outcomes, rubrics for various oral presentations, a pre/ post-test for expected learning outcomes, required use of the MyCOMM Training Lab, and COMM 101/103 instructor orientation and training completed in August. Keep up the great work!



Dr. Adrian Krishnasamy



On The Horizon: Assessment Awards

In the next academic year, and as a part of a peer review process for annual assessment efforts, the University Student Learning and Assessment Committee (USLAC) plans to establish and recognize outstanding assessment practices for three levels of academic programs assessment: advanced, intermediate and developing.

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General Education Syllabi Collection and Review

Beginning this fall, general education course syllabi will be collected biannually in accordance with Middle States recommendations. Course syllabi will be reviewed for student learning outcomes and the assessment of general education core competencies: oral and written communication, scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical and analytical thinking skills, and technological and information literacy skills.

MSCHE Monitoring Report Progress

During the summer, the University drafted its Middle States Commission for Higher Education (MSCHE) monitoring report which focused on Standards 7,12 and 14. The report is in a final draft format and will be completed by mid-September for submission to Middle States. All supporting documents and artifacts are currently being collected by the co-authors of the report, which include: Gail Fink, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, Becky Verzinski, Assistant Vice President for Assessment, and Sherri Braxton-Lieber, Director of Course Redesign and Assistant to the Provost.



Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Survey Results

Understanding the student perspective is a vital part of BSU's efforts to improve the student experience and overall quality of education. In support of this, in Spring 2012 the Office of Planning, Analysis, and Accountability (OPAA) administered the Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory. This survey is a widely used, nationally-normed and validated instrument that has been taken by more than three million students. OPAA is grateful to all faculty who supported this effort. A representative sample of more than 1.875 of BSU's 5,608 students responded to the survey, for a 36% response rate. BSU's core business is strong, as students reported good satisfaction with factors related to educational quality and the support systems directly related to the educational mission (advising), so much so that these areas are considered BSU's greatest strengths. In these areas, scores are higher than the national average. Opportunities for improvement were also noted. Overall student satisfaction is less strong, with \sim 75% of students reporting positive satisfaction. This may be driven by several causes, including that BSU students attend for

financial reasons (cost and financial aid availability) and that many students do not regard BSU as their first-choice school. These patterns of student perceptions are not related to any specific demographic characteristic (e.g., transfer status or gender), although there are moderate differences between undergraduate (worse) and graduate student (better) perceptions. OPAA will provide further updates and analyses of this and other survey data in the coming months to various campus groups and during the spring Faculty Institute.