Academic Assessment Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 9th 2015, 1:00-2:30pm
Kimmel 905
Kimmel Center for University Life, 60 Washington Square South

Attendance

Meeting Agenda
Diana welcomed the group and outlined the agenda for the first Academic Assessment Council meeting for AY2015 - 2016.

1. Compliance & Reporting Updates – AY2015 cycle
   Diana Karafin - Director, Assessment and Evaluation, Office of Academic Assessment

   Compliance rates by school for the AY2015 assessment cycle were reviewed with a highlight of what has been received and what is expected for this round. The assessment reporting timeline is set for the year with meetings with each school to take place starting in November and concluding in March. The Office of Academic Assessment will begin reaching out to liaisons and scheduling meeting dates for the coming months.

2. News & Updates
   Diana Karafin - Director, Assessment and Evaluation, Office of Academic Assessment

   New Assessment Council Liaisons
   James Pace (College of Nursing), Cydney Delia (NYU Shanghai), James Martin (Silver School of Social Work), Cheryl Merzel (College of Global Public Health), Millery Polyné (Gallatin), and Andrew Williams (NYU Law) were introduced as newest liaisons to the Assessment Council.

   New Academic Assessment Staff
   The Office of Academic Assessment welcomed its new Graduate Research Analyst, Nathan Leitner, to the group. Nathan has joined the office for the 2015-2016 academic year and will be supporting with content coding, reporting, and research support in the Office of Academic Assessment.
AY2015 Mini-Grant Awardees & 2016 Grant Cycle
The College of Nursing, NYU Shanghai, and College of Global Public Health were all awarded grants for the 2015 Academic Year. The funding will be used to help their programs improve their assessment process.

The 2016 cycle is starting sooner this year and interested units were advised to reach out to the Office of Academic Assessment to learn more and apply.

Yan’an University - NYU Assessment Dialogue
Diana Karafin - Director, Assessment and Evaluation, Office of Academic Assessment
Russ Hamberger - Associate Provost, Academic Program Review
Brianna Bates - Assistant Director, Academic Program Review

Twenty visiting professors from Yan’an University, and representatives from the NYU Office of Academic Assessment & the NYU Office of Academic Program Review participated in a cross-cultural dialogue on August 18, 2015 to share how each respective university uses data for evaluation, assessment, and improvement. Russ Hamberger noted that it was a great learning and cultural experience for both organizations. Brianna Bates discussed some of the highlights from the event, stating that there was good dialogue on NYU’s collaborative approach to assessment, with efforts made to foster school-based communication pathways and policies.

NYU Shanghai Academic Assessment Kick-off Visit
On behalf of the Office of Academic Assessment, Diana visited NYU Shanghai in October and met with faculty and staff to provide consultation and support to help NYU Shanghai programs integrate into the NYU assessment system. A series of meetings, workshops, and consultations were held over the course of 5 days with the objective of learning about the context of NYU Shanghai and to provide direct support to ensure NYU Shanghai programs are appropriately positioned to begin to devise and implement student learning outcomes assessment plans in the next academic year. NYU Shanghai currently offers 14 areas of study to a student body of 576. Half of the students are from China and the other half come from around the world—international students represent 49 different countries. 27% percent of the students are first generation college students from underrepresented populations. The visit concluded with the establishment of a timeline for program-level assessment plans to be established and pilot tested in AY2016 and AY2017. The Office of Academic Assessment will continue to provide support to NYU Shanghai faculty and staff as they develop their assessment plans. The OAA will also work to connect NYU Shanghai faculty with academic resources at WSQ and to link faculty working on assessment in congruent fields.

Diana discussed one example of the kind of workshop that was presented to faculty in Shanghai (curriculum mapping), to remind the Council that these workshops are available to their interested faculty and staff. The Council discussed the benefits of using a curriculum map to identify the extent to which required courses in a curriculum introduce and reinforce intended learning outcomes. Connee Zotos from the School of Professional Studies discussed how curriculum mapping has helped in the sport management program at SPS and how it has allowed the faculty to better understand how to think about assessing students within and across their curriculum. Diana also used this time as an opportunity to
reiterate the support and resources provided by the Office of Academic Assessment and encouraged schools to reach out during the year if additional support is needed around academic assessment. For example, the OAA can offer tailored meeting facilitation for assessment, customized workshops, individual consultations, and feedback. The NYU Shanghai visit typified the type of services the OAA provides to the NYU community.

3. Guest Presentation:
Expository Writing Program: Course Evaluation & Student Learning Assessment

Dara R. Regaignon - Associate Professor of English; Director of the Expository Writing Program, Faculty of Arts & Science

Ethan W. Youngerman - Senior Language Lecturer; Expository Writing, Faculty of Arts & Science

Dara and Ethan presented to the Council their recent effort to revise the indirect evaluation-based component of the expository writing programs overall assessment plan.

Opportunities/Next Steps

AY 2016 - 2017 OAA Mini-grant
Schools are encouraged to apply for the AY 2016 - 2017 Mini-grant. OAA offers mini-grants for NYU programs or units that wish to carry out assessment activities to build on current plans or test out and create new assessment plans or processes. The mini-grant application is available on the OAA website.

AY 2015 Assessment Reporting Meetings
Meetings with individual units will take place over the course of the next few months and OAA will be reaching out to schedule specific times with units.

Upcoming Meetings
Spring Assessment Council Meeting
Monday, February 29, 2016, 1pm – 2:30pm
HR Room 191 - 105 East 17th Street

Final Assessment Council Meeting for AY2015 - 2016
Monday, April, 11, 1pm-2:30pm
Location to be determined

Prepared by N. Leitner