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University Assessment Committee (UAC)

AY 2021-22 Report

Prepared by: Dr. Julia Nevárez – Chair / Sociology

May 2022

University Senate Committee Report Template

Committee Name: University Assessment Committee

Semester: Fall 2021 / Spring 2022

Committee Membership (*list members, role, and department & school or office*):

Mahmoud Affouf, Mathematics

Carissa Davis, Biology

Deborah Ceballos, Advertising and Graphic Design

Barber David, Fine Arts

Carla Sy Enriquez, Physical Therapy

Craig Konyk, Architecture

David Joiner, KFT Representative

Edward “Ted” Olsen, Physical Education, Teacher Education Program

Sucheta Ahlawat, Marketing

Committee Chair: Julia Nevárez,, CLA, School of Social Sciences, Sociology

Committee Secretary: Denise M. Nash, School of Nursing

Meeting dates (all meetings took place on Mondays from 3:25 to 4:25pm)

Fall 2021

9/27/21

10/18/21

11/15/21

11/29/21

12/13/22

Spring 2022

01/24/22

2/14/22

3/21/22

4/18/22

Minutes forwarded to University Senate office: Yes No

Faculty Senate Office included in all committee email communications.



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Summary of the work Fall 2020/Spring 2021:

- Election of Chair, Vice-President, and Secretary to offer continuity to the committee.
- Edited/Updated Standing Committee Charge twice in November 2021 and April 2022 to include providing a platform for the dissemination and presentation of “closing the loop” activities for university programs, approved by Faculty Senate.
- Tested and troubleshoot new assessment management system platform Watermark, to submit assessment report, selection of student learning objectives and courses for assessment, and preliminary data extraction from Blackboard.
- Coordination and participation in assessment panels through the Spring 2021 Semester sponsored by the Office of Accreditation and Assessment and University Assessment Committee where committee members and faculty from different disciplines presented approaches to assessment (See Panel Schedule and Information below).
- UAC members represented the committee to the Middle States Accreditation Site Visit for Accreditation, they included Dr. Julia Nevárez (Committee Chair - Sociology), David Barber (Theater) and Craig Konyk (Architecture).
- Reported back from the Middle States meeting to the UAC members and from the Middle States general feedback addressing assessment issues (focus and expansion on “closing the loop” presentations, application of assessment compensation evenly across colleges and programs, increase opportunities to present assessment practices in panels).
- Recommendation: to make our the university community about of all the digital platforms used at the institution and their function (i.e. Interfolio/Retention, Promotion, SimpleSyllabus/Curriculum, Watermark/Assessment, CANVAS/Remote Instruction, Ellucian/Advisement, Keanwise/Grading, etc).
- Development and planning of preliminary assessment tasks for AY 2022-23

Completed University Assessment Committee and Office of Assessment and Accreditation Panel Series:

Panel I: Rewarding Assessment

This is a panel highlighting the assessment process to include applied strategies to assessment, what has been learned from the assessment process, and what are the challenges. This cycle of panels for Spring 2022, after our series of panels last year, will showcase programs to share assessment perspectives and practices from those which have not presented in our previous panels and/or are lesser known to the university community.

Date: Friday, February 18 @ 1pm



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Presentations:

Ted Olsen – Physical Education – Teacher Education Program

"Rewarding Assessment in Physical Education Teacher Education: A Look at the Past, Present, and Future"

The purpose of this presentation is to highlight the assessment process in the Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) program at Kean University. More specifically, this presentation will discuss the background and status of the PETE program, past assessment approaches, current challenges to the assessment process, current assessment approaches and applied strategies, and recommendations to the assessment process for the future.

Carisa Davis, Biology

"Assessment in Biology: What if a program is different from all the others?"

In Biology, the Health Information Management (HIM) program is a joint program between Kean and Rutgers. Students take classes at Kean for freshman and sophomore years and then complete the degree at Rutgers. This presentation will highlight the evolution of assessment for this degree and the challenges encountered.

Denise M. Nash, Nursing

"Assessment of the Nursing Program: Meeting the Accreditation Standards of the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)"

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss the assessment process in the Nursing Program at Kean University. The presentation will share information about ACEN and the accreditation requirements of the Nursing Program and how assessment impacts accreditation.

Craig Konyk – School of Public Architecture, Michael Graves College

"Why Assessment?"

Will discuss Architecture's new Assessment based Accreditation Model and the program benefits to be derived from a well-designed assessment plan.

Carla Sy Enriquez –School of Physical Therapy

"Accreditation Standards for Assessment in the School of Physical Therapy (SOPT) Program at Kean University"

This presentation will share the School of Physical Therapy's SOPT's past and current remediation policies in the program's assessment processes. In particular, the presentation will highlight the challenges and outcomes that fueled the needs for change to better student performance and instruction.



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Planned Panel 1 for AY 2022-23

Fall 2022

Date: TBA

Assessment Research- This panel will focus on the idea of assessment as a research practice for an unfolding field of expertise. Special consideration will be placed on translating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) principles to assessment (following last Spring 2021 panel) and examining the latest trend in assessment that includes student participation in the design and interpretation of assessment. We would like to showcase how different administrative offices rely on assessment and assessment data to develop policies and services.

Date: TBA – Fall 2022

Presentations:

Denise Ceballos, RBSD Advertising and Graphic Design Programs

"The Assessment Process: For and By students"

The course KU1000, Introduction to Assessment is a crash course introducing Kean University students in the Michael Graves College of Design and Architecture to the meaning behind the required student learning objectives and the assessment process. The course seeks to document their initial reactions and thoughts on becoming part of the process and who they would like to see represent them during the assessment process. This presentation will illustrate the steps followed for the conceptualization of assessment and the course design.

Sucheta Ahlawat, Marketing, College of Business and Public Management

"Enhancing Assessment Value through Modified Assessment Practices"

The presentation will discuss modifying assessment practices to guide course and program improvements in the undergraduate marketing program. The goal is to distinguish assessment from grading. Discussion about the use of assessment results to improvements in student learning will follow.

Mahmoud Affouf, Mathematics, College of Science, Mathematics, and Technology

"Equity in Practice: Advancing Math Opportunity"

Initiatives to modernize mathematics course sequences through high school and college have opened new opportunities for students to deepen their quantitative literacy skills in ways that are



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relevant to their educational and career interests. New courses in areas such as statistics, data science, and quantitative reasoning can contribute to equitable math outcomes, but only if they are implemented in ways that focus on equity. They need to be designed intentionally: rather than reinforcing traditional patterns of tracking, they need to attract historically excluded groups into STEM and other attractive majors, such as business and economics, that require calculus.

Julia Nevárez, Sociology

***"Critical Thinking: Connecting, Synthesizing, Transforming Sociological Perspectives"
Hands-On "closing the loop" in assessment"***

"Closing the loop" assessment activities are designed to identify and address assessment challenges related issues to student learning. This presentation will focus on one of the criterion where students scored the lowest in the Critical Thinking Rubric even though most student scored above the expected benchmark. Data based on the Sociology Assessment Report AY 2020-21 was used to identify the student challenge to "connect, synthesize, and transform sociological perspectives" criterion. The presentation will offer a hands-on approach to illustrate how different perspectives are presented in writing (such as a Literature Review) as an example on how to think and write critically.