

October 2023

Volume 7 Number 1

A New Year, A New Committee



Jennifer Patterson, Ph.D. Chair, Learning Assessment Committee Professor of Management

Hi, all! I hope your term has been filled with great experiences, so far. As we begin our first DataVersed of this Academic Year, it is time to discuss a few changes related to the Learning Assessment Committee (LAC). Change. Everyone seems to dislike it. Don't we? But, we do enjoy advancements. We embrace new and improved (usually!). As you are likely aware, the mission of the Learning Assessment Committee has evolved slightly from our former role in the assessment processes at FSW. Along with other objectives, the committee's goals will include an increased emphasis on formulating strategies for using information gathered from assessments to generate suggestions and opportunities for professional development.

As an instructor in the BAS Supervision and Management degree program, I approach Management courses as analyses of the four basic functions of Management including planning, organizing, leading, and controlling. It goes without saying that the achievement of goals requires decision-making regarding the specifics of the goals and the strategies (plans) for reaching those goals. Strategies for reaching the goals must include proper organization that ensures processes and resources are in place. And, of course, we cannot forget the leadership who guides the organization toward the achievement of the goals.

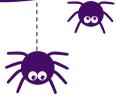


That all leads to the control function of Management. The control function includes monitoring and evaluating progress towards the achievement of the goals and making required changes to ensure the organizational goals are achieved. In other words: What are the objectives? How close are we to reaching the objectives? What might be preventing (hindering, impeding progress) the achievement of the goals/objectives? What could be done to ensure that the objectives are achieved? As I see it, one of our roles in the Assessment processes at FSW will be included in the control function of managing assessments as we work to analyze information and generate ideas and suggestions for addressing anything that might prevent or impede the successful achievement of the learning objectives. Similarly, the LAC works to develop suggestions for potential professional development opportunities that could be helpful in enhancing the understanding of the assessment objectives, etc. The term is off to a great beginning as work is already underway for finding methods of enhancement, and generating ideas for professional development opportunities. The newly updated Assessment 101 Workshop was recently released and provides opportunities for everyone to participate in a self-paced online mini-course.

I hope you will consider exploring the upcoming opportunities for professional development. I look forward to the remainder of this Academic Year and to working with the LAC as we attempt to build on the foundation of excellence in education students have come to expect at FSW. We invite you to consider the possibilities! 😇 Participate in Professional Development workshops, Assessment 101, Syllapolooza, etc. Let us know your thoughts and suggestions!

Wishing you the best! Jennifer "Jenny" Patterson, PhD Chair, Learning Assessment Committee





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Assessment 101

See the TLC Training Calendar to register

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Learning Assessment Committee 2023-2024

Member	Department or Division	Primary Campus
Patterson, Jennifer	Accounting, Bus., Management and LAC Chair	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Batiato, Dolores	Business	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Cabral, Krissy	Crime Scene Technology	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Carlson, Meghan	Mathematics	Collier
Charles, Jane	Libraries	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Coman, Marius	Biology/Chemistry/Physics	Collier
Conwell, Mary	Paralegal, Arch., Const., Engineering	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Donaldson, Tom	Social Sciences	Charlotte
Godwin, Jessica	Team AASPIRE	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Hester, Renee	Academic Success	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Moore, Colleen	Health Professions	Charlotte
Ruiz, Veronica	Team AASPIRE	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Seefchak, Caroline	Education	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Seelau, Eric	Social Sciences	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Such, Tami	Dean, Health Sciences	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Summary, Jennifer	Communication Studies	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Trogan, Amy	English	Thomas Edison (Lee)
van Gaalen, Joseph	Team AASPIRE	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Worch, Richard	Criminal Justice/Public Admin.	Thomas Edison (Lee)
Zamor, Terry	Mathematics	Thomas Edison (Lee)



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