October 2018

From the LAC Chair

On Defining Student Learning

Dr. Caroline Seefchak
Professor of Education
and LAC Chair

On behalf of the Learning Assessment Committee, LAC, welcome to Academic Year 2018-2019. I am honored to continue to serve as Florida SouthWestern State College's LAC chair and to work with a committee of creative and industrious members. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with Dr. Joseph van Gaalen, Director of Assessment and Effectiveness and to collaborate with the College's Office of Assessment and Effectiveness. The LAC's mission is to assist academic disciplines in the development of assessments and assessment strategies, rubrics, and ways to use data to be assured of promoting student success. With three subcommittees, the LAC provides assessment support, professional development opportunities, and timely communication.

 As we enter a new academic year, this is an opportunity for us to think about the various means by which we measure student learning in our classrooms. At Florida SouthWestern State College, we define instructional effectiveness not only on the basis of what instructors do as professors, but also on what students are able to do as a result of their learning. Successful assessment can tell us if our instruction is effective, and can also help guide us through improvement to be sure our teaching is aligned with the goals and standards we have set. There are many data sources that illuminate student learning, and research has shown that no single assessment can tell us all we need to know in planning curricula.

DataVersed is one of two publications produced by the LAC. It is published six times each academic year. In addition to *DataVersed*, look for *Did You Know*, a biannual piece that highlights interesting data and trends at the College.

If you have questions concerning assessment at FSW, contact Dr. Joseph van Gaalen, Joseph.vanGaalen@fsw.edu. For any queries concerning *DataVersed*, contact me, Caroline.Seefchak@fsw.edu.

Best wishes for a productive academic year that yields abundant, informative data!

Research Rubric Now Available

Each summer for the past three years, members of a task force formed by the Learning Assessment Committee of Florida SouthWestern State College have been working to create rubrics as part of the revised assessment of the General Education Program. Throughout the process, the AAC&U Value Rubrics and one in-house rubric were utilized to score voluntarily submitted artifacts. The scorers, mainly members of the Learning Assessment Committee (LAC) General Education Sub-Committee, were asked to provide qualitative feedback on the functionality of the rubrics. They were asked to comment on the rubric dimensions, achievement levels, and appropriateness of the rubrics in relation to the submitted artifacts.

Continuing with this evolution of assessment, the FSW Research rubric was developed by an 8-member task force of faculty and staff representing four of five schools of the College and supported by the Office of Academic Assessment and the Office of the Provost during special sessions held in the summer of 2018. Task members, led by Joseph van Gaalen (Assessment & Effectiveness / Sciences) included: Jane Charles (Libraries), Rebecca Harris (English), Julia Kroeker (Education), Patricia Arcidiacono (Health Professions), Jennifer Patterson (Business), Caroline Seefchak (Education & LAC Chair), Eileen DeLuca (Office of the Provost).

The school representatives used the Association of American Colleges and Universities Integrated Learning VALUE Rubric as a foundation for development ultimately adopting only the dimensions (in part) and achievement levels (4-3-2-1) with a 0 if no achievement is met. The rubric defines the fundamental criteria for each learning outcome and outlines performance required to demonstrate levels of attainment through the use of Bloom's Taxonomic verbiage. Rubric achievement levels, in descending order: Capstone (4), Accomplished (3), Developing (2), and Deficient (1).

The intent of the rubric developers was to frame language such that the rubric is as inclusive as possible to any and all 'Research' assignments. Careful consideration was paid to providing descriptors detailed enough to score an artifact, but yet to remain in general terms as much as possible to allow for application to a wide assortment of assignment types and styles. In order to increase clarity, action verbs were utilized in each achievement level description. The developers also attempted to place emphasis on dimensions being mutually exclusive, such that users of this rubric can elect to omit any dimension not required of a given assignment.

RESEARCH	Capstone (4)	Accomplished (3)	Developing (2)	Deficient (1)
Research Question & Thesis	Constructs a research question as reflected by a coherent and insightful thesis statement.	Constructs a research question as reflected by a thesis statement.	Develops an imprecise or vague research question reflected by an insufficient thesis and / or a limited framework for the topic / assignment.	Lacks a research question as reflected by an insufficient thesis and a minimal framework for the topic / assignment.
Information Retrieval	Interpolates with discernment credible evidence through the selection of material(s) closely related to the topic and relevant to one another within the context of the assignment.	Interpolates credible evidence through the selection of material(s) closely related to the topic and relevant to one another within the context of the assignment.	Identifies credible evidence through the selection of materials mostly relevant to the topic and one another within the context of the assignment.	Names some credible evidence, but with a limited relationship to the topic and / or one another within the context of the assignment.
Interpretation of Evidence	Evaluates information, and draws apposite and perceptive inferences from selected sources.	Analyzes information and draws apposite inferences from selected sources.	Identifies information and draws simplistic inferences from selected sources.	Identifies information but draws minimal inferences from selected sources.
Community of Scholarship	Adopts and synthesizes the viewpoints and contributions of experts from an appropriate discipline(s).	Integrates the viewpoints and contributions of experts from an appropriate discipline(s).	Summarizes the viewpoints and contributions of experts from an appropriate discipline(s).	Identifies the viewpoints and contributions of experts from an appropriate discipline(s).
Documentation of Sources	Uses an appropriate citation style to correctly document sources in a bibliography and / or in text with minimal errors in formatting the citations (bibliography / in-text).	Uses an appropriate citation style to document most or all selected sources, but has a few errors in formatting the citations (bibliography / in-text).	Uses an appropriate citation style to document some sources, but has several or many errors in formatting the citations (bibliography / in-text).	Uses a citation style to document few sources, but has significant and disruptive errors in formatting the citations (bibliography / in-text).

D'ariel Barnard Joins the Office of Academic Assessment and LAC

D'ariel Barnard
Academic Assessment Analyst

D'ariel Barnard is very pleased and excited to join the Office of Academic Assessment and the Learning Assessment Committee. Originally hailing from the suburbs of Seattle, she holds a bachelor's degree from New College of Florida with areas of concentration in both Psychology and Music.

Her undergraduate thesis, "Sight Singing with Individualized Real-Time Feedback: The Efficacy of Singing Coach in the Music Theory Classroom," was the result of an IRB-approved comparison study she created and conducted showing how technology with real-time visual feedback could significantly improve beginning music theory students' ability to learn sight singing, and it taught her a lot about assessment! As FSW's new Academic Assessment Analyst, she looks forward to helping support faculty and staff with their assessment procedures.

D'ariel maintains a strong passion for live theatre and opera, having performed in everything from a John Cage and Viewpoints inspired structured improvisation of the *Gettysburg Address* to Mozart's *Magic Flute*. From 2014 to 2017, she maintained a private voice studio teaching individual lessons and workshops in NYC and twice attended the *Singing Voice Science & Pedagogy Workshop* conferences at Montclair State University, NJ.

'Visualize' and 'Engage' to Be Assessed This AY

Dr. Joseph van Gaalen
Assistant Vice President, Institutional Research, Assessment and Effectiveness

During the 2014-2015 Academic Year, Florida SouthWestern State College initiated a revised assessment of the General Education Program. Throughout the process, the AAC&U Value Rubrics and one in-house rubric were utilized to score voluntarily submitted artifacts. Beginning with the 2017-2018 Academic Year, courses identified by faculty of that discipline as "Integral" can be randomly selected to provide an assignment which the instructor feels is appropriate to meet that competency for General Education Assessment for that year. This random selection plan was developed by the Learning Assessment Committee (LAC). The random selection and outreach to instructors occurs in mid-to-late September of each Academic Year.

'Visualize' and 'Engage' to Be Assessed This AY

At the April 2018, Learning Assessment Committee (LAC) meeting, the committee voted to assess the "Visualize" and "Engage" General Education Competencies during the 2018-2019 Academic Year. In the assessment plan, courses identified by faculty of that discipline as "Visualize" or "Engage" at the *integral* level can be randomly selected for General Education Assessment during Fall 2018 as part of the AY 2018-19 assessment plan. Below is a listing of all courses which faculty identified as "Visualize" or "Engage." Under the new plan outlined by the LAC, if a course is listed, one or more sections of the course may be randomly selected to provide an assignment the instructor feels is appropriate to meet that competency.

Visualize:
School of Arts, Humanities & Social Science:
ANT 1410, ART 1201C, HUM 2020, HUM 2211, HUM 2235, HUM 2250, HUM 2410, INR 2002, SYG 1000, SYG 1010

School of Business & Technology:
BNC 1272, CCJ 1010, CJE 2770, CTS 1131, EGS 1001, ETD 2340, GEB 1011, MAN 3301, PAD 4414, PLA 2202, PLA 2800, RMI 2001, SUR 1100, TRA 2402

School of Education:
CHD 1332, TSL 4080, TSL 4140

School of Health Professions:
DEH 2702, HUS 2551, FFP 1825, FFP 2521

School of Pure & Applied Science:
none

Engage:
School of Arts, Humanities & Social Science:
ART 2012C, CLP 1001, CPO 2001, ECO 2013, SLS 1515

School of Business & Technology:
BCN 1040, BUL 2241, CJE 2711, CJL 2610, COP 2800, CTS 2142, MAN 3303, PAD 2949, PAD 3003, PAD 4932, PLA 2880, SLS 1331

School of Education:
EDE 3315, EDE 4223, EEC 1946, EEC 1947

School of Health Professions:
DEH 2702L, EMS 2119L, EMS 2421, EMS 2601L, EMS 2602L, EMS 2646, EMS 2661, FFP 1505, FFP 1825, FFP 1832, FFP 2111, FFP 2120, FFP 2630, FFP 2706, FFP 2740, FFP 2741, FFP 2810, HUS 2842L, HUS 2843L, NUR 3655, NUR 4827, NUR 4827C, NUR 4827L

School of Pure & Applied Science:
none

Learning Assessment Committee
AY 2018-2019

Patricia Arcidiacono	Health Professions	Dr. Lisa McGarity	Science
D'ariel Barnard	Academic Assessment & Effectiveness	Barb Miley	Accountability & Effectiveness
Andrew Blitz	Computer Science & Construction Tech	Colleen Moore	Health Professions
Leroy Bugger	Business & Accounting	Dr. Kristi Moran	Mathematics
Jane Charles	Library	Dr. Katie Paschall	Speech
Dr. Marius Coman	Science	Dr. Jennifer Patterson	Business & Tech
Dr. John Connell	Speech & Foreign Language	Dr. Elijah Pritchett	Humanities & Fine Arts
Dr. Mary Conwell	Paralegal Studies	Dr. Caroline Seefchak	Committee Chair
Dr. Eileen DeLuca	Academic Affairs	Dr. Eric Seelau	Social Sciences
Thomas Donaldson	Social Sciences	William Stoudt	Mathematics
Dr. Rene Hester	Student Life Skills	Dr. Amy Trogan	English
Dr. Julia Kroeker	Education	Dr. Joe van Gaalen	Academic Assessment & Effectiveness
Margaret Kruger	Health Professions	Dr. Richard Worch	Criminal Justice & Public Safety
David Licht	Mathematics	Dr. Denis Wright	Health Professions
Fernando Mayoral	Foreign Language	Terry Zamor	Mathematics