

Message from the Committee Chair

A Talk with Assessment Coordinators

Hello everyone! On behalf of the Learning Assessment Committee (LAC) and Team AASPIRE, I'd like to use this final *DataVersed* of the 2019/2020 academic year to wish you a smooth and satisfying conclusion to a most unusual semester.

The content of this edition had been planned early in 2020. At that time, Dr.

van Gaalen had the wonderful idea of putting the focus on a few of our newest learning assessment coordinators to explore the different and ever-evolving approaches to assessment across various academic disciplines. Having the material for this story already gathered and ready, we decided that—despite our current momentary pause in LAC activity—it was only right to continue as planned. After all, like other aspects of daily life, the work of assessment is still waiting right there to be picked up when the time is right. We may as well continue to share our thoughts and ideas about the work of assessment until that moment comes.

I hope that it comes very soon. But until it does, I want to encourage everyone at FSW to be safe and to take good care of yourselves and those dear to you. The LAC and Team AASPIRE wishes everyone a safe and happy summer, and with any luck, we'll all be sharing space together again before we know it.

A black rectangular box containing the name 'Elijah Pritchett' in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Elijah Pritchett

What the Newest Voices of the LAC Have to Say

Want to serve on the LAC? Wonder what you'll encounter in your first year? Well, after a year of service with the Learning Assessment Committee, *DataVersed* felt perhaps it was a good time to hear what those newest members had to say about their experiences. And so, we have gone out and asked each of the three new members for 2019-2020 four questions simple questions to help sum up that experience. There's a lot of insight from these three varied sources, but also a commonality or two as well. Here's what they had to say.

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A Chat with New LAC Coordinators continued from previous page

Mark Cevallos, Math Department Assessment Coordinator

What is the first thing that comes to your mind about what you learned since joining FSW's LAC?

“I learned that here at FSW, follow some of the same procedures and apply the same rigor that the State of Florida does with their assessments and ACT/SAT platforms. It certainly seems like there is a lot of hard work to ensure it is measurable and it is nice to see that this is what FSW is doing and that they have such a strong team to support that work.

What do you feel is most important about assessment in FSW, specific to your department?

“I think that the most important thing in assessment in my department [Mathematics] is measuring trends within our different courses so that we can uncover the progression of students from remedial courses up to our calculus courses or what some might call our junior/senior level type courses.

What is one thing that has helped you along the way in serving FSW as a LAC?

“The wonderful team that is the Learning Assessment Committee and Team AASPIRE. They are always there for me and us. I am grateful for their hard work and dedication.

What is one thing you wish you had more of in serving FSW as a LAC?

“Time.”

Jennifer Summary, Communication Studies Assessment Coordinator

What is the first thing that comes to your mind about what you learned since joining FSW's LAC?

“Well, I guess I'm learning a lot more about assessment which has been informative for my own classes and craft, especially the rubrics. I'm getting to see how it looks from other faculty and that's important because I can gain new perspectives from so many angles. It has been eye-opening and making me more informed on the competencies. It helps me talk to my colleagues about the materials, too, and we can be more open minded on selected course materials because of it.

What do you feel is most important about assessment in FSW, specific to your department?

“The most important thing is communicating the importance of assessment; in particular the whole process, how to connect the materials, how to label things correctly, how to upload to Canvas, and how to keep us all in the loop together.

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The Newest Voices of the LAC continued from previous page

Mark Cevallos

What is one thing you wish you had more of in serving FSW as a LAC?
“I can’t think of any one thing, because being on the Learning Assessment Committee, I have always been very supported by Team AASPIRE and I feel so comfortable as a result. So many conversations with that team have been so crucial to transitioning to the committee for me.

Jennifer Patterson, Assessment Coordinator, Business

What is the first thing that comes to your mind about what you learned since joining FSW’s LAC?

“To me it is consistency and following through on things. I have a management degree and there are four major functions there: planning, organizing, leading and controlling. I connected the controlling (monitoring) with assessment quite quickly. It’s about evaluating where we are and moving forward. It’s that process of making corrections, not just making the plan and moving forward, but making corrections along the way and the importance of analyzing what we did and re-thinking what we did that drives the whole thing. You have to do that frequently and I think that gets lost on you if you don’t see it from the inside every once in a while.

Jennifer Summary

What do you feel is most important about assessment in FSW, specific to your department?

“Ensuring that everyone is on the same page so that we can get the data. It has been an issue for us in the past, so it is important to be sure we can collect the data and have something to look at in order to take that next step. It’s seems so simple, but with so many moving parts, it really isn’t all that easy. It is important that we know what we have. How will we know when it is time to look at something else?”

Jennifer Patterson

What is one thing that has helped you along the way in serving FSW as a LAC?

“I would say two things: Team AASPIRE and the other Learning Assessment Committee members. Being there with everybody else, hearing what they do and learning from their experiences about trying to apply things in their area provides me a great support structure to working in my area and what we do.

What is one thing you wish you had more of in serving FSW as a LAC?

“Time.”

FSW Learning Assessment Committee, 2019-2020

Learning Assessment Committee Chair:

Elijah Pritchett Humanities

Learning Assessment Coordinators:

Mary Myers	Computer Science and Construction Tech
Jennifer Patterson	Business
Jane Charles	Library
Marius Coman	Science
Mary Conwell	Paralegal Studies
Renee Hester	Academic Success
Caroline Seefchak	Education
Fernando Mayoral	Foreign Language
Colleen Moore	Health Professions
Mark Cevallos	Math
Jennifer Summary	Communication Studies
Eric Seelau	Social Sciences
Amy Trogan	English
Richard Worch	Public Admin/Criminal Justice/Crime Scene
Mike Molloy	Humanities

General Members:

D'ariel Barnard	Team AASPIRE
Grace Scardo	Team AASPIRE
Leroy Bugger	Accounting
John Connell	Foreign Language
Margaret Kruger	Health Professions
David Licht	Math
Lisa McGarity	Science
Terry Zamor	Math
Paula Tropello	Dean, School of Health Professions
Joseph van Gaalen	Asst. VP of Institutional Research Assessment, & Effectiveness, Team AASPIRE

