**From the Ground Up: Assessment of Student Learning**

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**Response - Version 62015-03-13**

| **Please give your name and contact information (email address and/or phone number).** |
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| |  | | --- | | **Primary Mentor:**  Sandra M. Harris  sandra.harris@waldenu.edu  334-220-4466  **HLC Senior Scholar:**  Gloria Rogers  grogers@hlcommission.org  812-240-9770 | |

| **What are some strengths of this project/Academy work? Why are these strengths?** |
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| |  | | --- | | **Reviewed by Sandra Harris (Primary Mentor):**  One strength noted in this update is the change in the reporting structure to were the Assessment Committee reports to the Shared Governance Oversight Committee. It is good the that the Assessment Committee would have communication and contact with other governance committees around the campus. That contact could be a way of fostering a culture of assessment through the various governing committees.  **Reviewed by Gloria Rogers (HLC Senior Scholar):**  I concur with Sandra.  In addition to other things we have mentioned in previous postings, I also think the reporting process is commendable and a strength of this project.  Being able to have comparative data about the implementation of the processes is very helpful and can encourage participation.  It demonstrates the level of integration of the processes in each program and provides opportunities for the committee to provide support to those programs who are lagging. | |

| **What remains unclear or what questions do you still have about this work to assess and improve student learning?** |
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| |  | | --- | | **Reviewed by Sandra Harris (Primary Mentor):**  What remains unclear is how the change of reporting will affect efforts to improve student learning. How does the change of reporting affect the overall charge of the Assessment Committee?  **Reviewed by Gloria Rogers (HLC Senior Scholar):**  I don't have the same clarity about the status of the Assessment Committee.  The reports says, "Once approved by the President all shared governance chartered committees (including Assessment Committee) will report to the Shared Governance Oversight Committee.  Currently the Assessment Committee reports to the Provost/VPAA.  The Academy Team made a recommendation that they be incorporated into the Assessment Committee, and this will be addressed after the approval of the Bylaws."  Does this mean that the Academy Team will be incorporated into the Assessment Committee?  Is the plan to morph the Academy Team into the Assessment Committee after the time in the Academy?  I reviewed your charts with great interest.  I thought they were very helpful to see the scope of the work that is being done.  I thought it was interesting that all programs report have assessment data and outcomes but few have significant findings or actions.  Why do you think that is?  Is this an opportunity for professional development?  As indicated in your response to the last posting, institutional commitment and support is important for the success of your project.  A project of this magnitude needs resources that can only be provided if it is an institutional priority.  How will you seek out that support?  What do you think "institutional support and commitment" will look like? | |

| **What are some critical things to which the institution should pay attention as it plans its work for the next six months?** |
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| |  | | --- | | **Reviewed by Sandra Harris (Primary Mentor):**  The major points of consideration were identified in the previous feedback the was provided. I do not have any additional points to add at this time.  **Reviewed by Gloria Rogers (HLC Senior Scholar):**  You indicate that your goals for the next six months will focus on gaining the institutional commitment needed.  Although this is important (as noted previously) it is also important to move forward with a strategies to close the loop on your assessment processes.  This may include professional development, coaching, or other activities to move your processes from data collection to actions that are data-driven. | |

| **What are some other possibilities or resources that might contribute to the success of this project? For instance, can you suggest resources such as books, benchmarks, instruments, models, and processes?** |
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| |  | | --- | | There are no new recommendations.  I hope to see you at the Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference. | |

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