



The University Assessment Council

Minutes

January 24, 2017

210 East Annex

Attendance: Viola Acoff, Eric Williams, Holly Hallmann, Kevin Walker, Grace Lee, James Leonard, Mary Kay Meyer, Liza Wilson, Lesley Reid, Marilyn Staffo, Cecil Robinson, Jon Acker, Heather Pleasants, Ginger Bishop, Chris Coleman, Mary Ann Connors, Carmen Jones, Vivian Abbott, Ross Crafton

Discussion

Minutes approved as read

SACSCOC Update

- No revisions to the SACSCOC principles yet; when the first draft is released, public comments can be submitted. Following a second draft/review, the revised principles will go into effect in December 2017
- It is very likely that General Education will need to be assessed going forward
- Federal requirements about student achievement (currently FR 4.1) require benchmarks and a rationale for them. OIE will begin working on these
- A major focus at this time is preparation for the 5th Year Review
- Off-campus sites will be visited in the 5th Year Review

Feedback Reports

- Chris presented aggregated feedback results for ADP assessment reports submitted last Fall; once Spring reports are reviewed, full aggregated results will be shared
- Individual feedback reports will be released to Fall submitters soon
- An Assessment Workshop on OIE feedback reports was suggested

QEP Update

- Heather presented the council with a handout summarizing QEP goals, pilot results, and improvements. Most ELO participants have been female students
- Aqua was used to score and analyze the pilot data
- Reflection scores improved somewhat from pre to post; the pilot results represent a pre-intervention measure of growth
- Supporting data from a Capstone Agency student survey was presented. Most respondents (~80%) indicated they had not taken an experiential learning course; a similar percentage expressed an interest in doing so

Meeting Adjourned

Next meeting will be Feb 21, 2017 in Rose G54 (same day and time, a week earlier than usual)

Learning in Action Quality Enhancement Plan Pilot Year (2015-2016) Assessment Results and Improvements

The Learning in Action QEP has three primary goals:

- to determine the impact of high quality experiential learning opportunities (ELOs) on students' abilities to apply knowledge and skills in real-world problem solving;
- to increase the quantity and quality of ELOs at UA; and
- to improve and increase students' perceptions of excellence in their educational preparation.

Assessment Process Improvements, Based on Pilot Year

- Revision of pre and post-reflection prompts and alignment with scoring rubric, drawing on AAC&U Value Rubrics
- Use of Taskstream Aqua to assess Spring 2015 pilot data (baseline)
- Calibration of scoring process with Assessment Team; professional development for Assessment Team
- Training for Faculty Fellows and Implementation of Taskstream LAT

Improvements to Student Learning

- Pre/post-reflection results from pilot year (Spring 2015)
- Increase in participating faculty/staff, participating colleges/departments

**The University of Alabama
Office of Institutional Research and Assessment
Pre and Post Mean Scores by Rating Category
QEP ELO Pilot - Spring 2016**

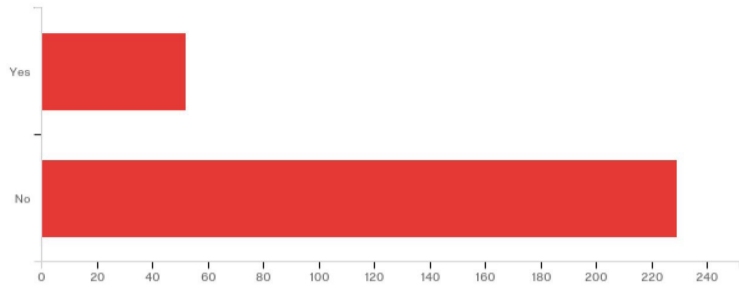
Matched Samples - Total

| Rating Category | Matched Samples* | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| | Pre Scores MEAN | Post Scores MEAN | Mean Difference |
| A. Defines problem with situational awareness | 1.88 | 2.11 | 0.23 |
| B. Identifies and derives solutions | 1.89 | 2.08 | 0.19 |
| C. Uses academic knowledge in real-world contexts | 1.76 | 2.17 | 0.41 |
| D. Analyzes and evaluates solution | 1.78 | 2.15 | 0.37 |
| E. Connects academics to real-world contexts | 1.83 | 2.20 | 0.37 |
| Total Mean | 1.83 | 2.14 | 0.31 |

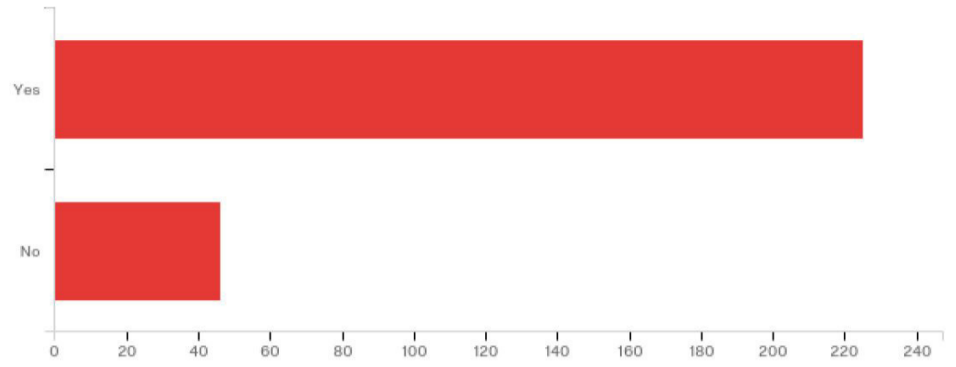
| Total Faculty by College | |
|---|-----------|
| College of Arts & Sciences | 15 |
| Culverhouse College of Commerce | 2 |
| College of Communication and Information Sciences | 6 |
| College of Education | 4 |
| College of Human Environmental Sciences | 6 |
| College of Engineering | 2 |
| Capstone College of Nursing | 1 |
| School of Social Work | 1 |
| Other | 15 |
| Total | 52 |

Excerpted Data from Capstone Agency Student Survey

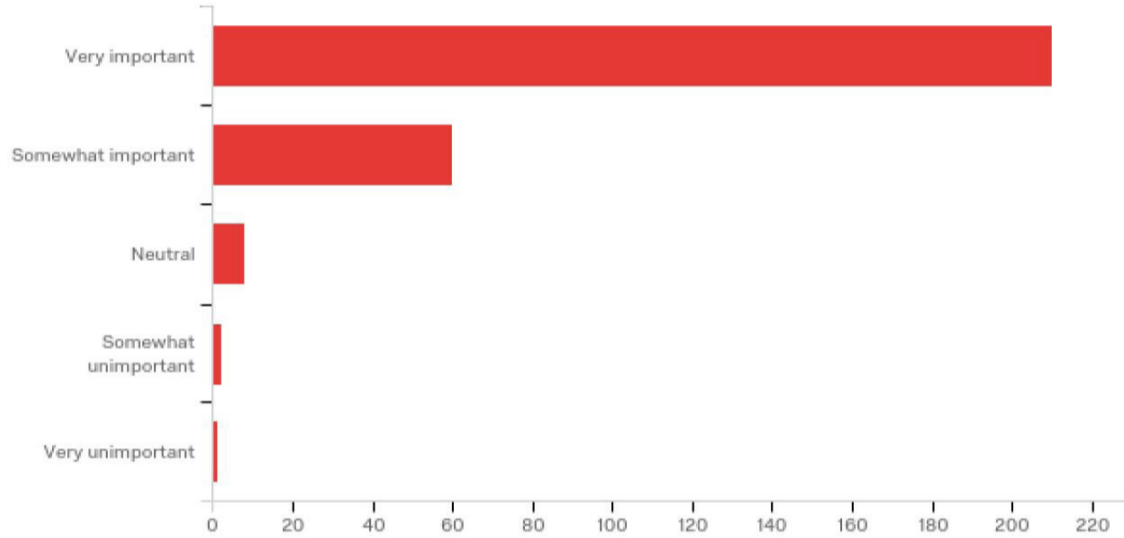
Q3 - Have you taken an experiential learning course?



Q5 - Would you be interested in taking an experiential learning course?



Q2 - How important is it for you to apply skills you've learned in the classroom to the real world?



Q4 - What experiential learning course(s) have you taken?

