

April 2011

SAAC Has New and Improved Website

Wondering when the next SAAC Work session is being held? Looking for the definition of the General Education Abilities? Interested in finding out what other divisions on campus are doing related to assessment? Are you curious about recent assessment results? Find all this and more at the new and improved EMCC SAAC website! The finishing touches are being added and the new website will go live before the end of the Spring 2011 semester.

Dates to Remember...

Assessment Week Spring 2011

April 4th - April 8th

Assessment Week Fall 2011

TBA

SAAC Spring Work Sessions*: Everyone is Welcome!

January 18, 2011 (OCT108)

February 15, 2011 (OCT108)

March 22, 2011 (OCT108)

April 19, 2011 (OCT108)

**All meetings are held on Tuesdays
from 2:00-3:30*

[All faculty are welcome to attend]

General Education Communication Assessment Results

The General Education Communication Ability Assessment (administered by faculty volunteers who agreed to assess communication in their courses) resulted in a total of 392 valid completed assessments in fall 2010 and spring 2011. The fall 2010 sample include 15 sections, representing 9 instructors. The majority of the sections consist of communication and English courses (COM 100, COM225, ENG102, and ENH259); other courses included ARH101, CIS105 and SOC130, ENG/RDG091. The spring 2011 implementation included one additional instructor that administered the survey in five education course sections (EDU221, EDU222, EDU230, and EDU236). Of the 392 assessments, 115 student respondents were considered of sophomore status (students with 30+ credit hours in courses 100 level or above). Overall, sophomores performed better than freshman in all areas based on the means scores.

A two sample *t*-test was applied (*statistical significance - .05 alpha*) for a number of questions. Significance levels resulted for those measures involving critical thinking skills; where students had to analyze, evaluate, or create. Overall, student performance in delivery and presentation was favorable with 5 of the 6 top mean scores related to vocal delivery. The highest rated content item "*Speech reflected the assigned purpose,*" is an area where sophomore students scored a statistically higher mean as compared to freshmen students.

While students performed adequately in all areas on most measures, some lower mean scores were recognized in the introduction and conclusion sections. One physical delivery component "*Used appropriate and controlled movement throughout at meaningful times,*" was included in the six lowest rated items. Sophomore students statistically outperformed freshmen in five of these six challenging items. The single exception involved the physical delivery item.

Overall, students did well on the communication assessment. For sophomore students, only one area in the introduction section "*Stating the credibility of the speaker*" fell below a 3.0 mean on 0-4 point scale. The most challenging sections included the "*introduction and conclusion*" - areas requiring higher level thinking. Additional challenges considered student delivery in relating the topic to the audience, and those leaving lasting impressions.

Spring 2011 Assessment Week

EMCC's Spring 2011 Assessment Week is April 4th-April 8th.

This semester, the College will once again administer the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). The college is participating in the CCSSE assessment for the fourth time. Results from previous administration during 2004, 2006, and 2009 produced valuable data which benefitted the college in a number of ways.

The following **Assessment Week Activities** are planned April 4th through the 8th. **Monday: "What do you know about assessment quiz?"** – Includes a series of challenging assessment questions offered through an online survey – a great prize will



March 2011

Farewell to Michelle Breaux

The spring 2011 semester marks Michelle Breaux's last as the co-chair for SAAC. Under her two years of leadership, she has proven instrumental in identifying ways that we can assess EMCC's new general education abilities across the college, and helping instructors create great assessment projects in their courses. We will miss her day-to-day service in making student learning assessment as practical and relevant as possible, and especially her friendliness and spirit of cooperation on the committee. We encourage residential faculty to consider the opportunity of serving as a SAAC co-chair for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 academic years in order to continue her legacy of excellence.

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also be awarded! **Critical Thinking Tuesday:** A delicious lunch will be provided 12:00pm to 1:00pm. **Wednesday:** Between 1:30pm and 2:30pm - **"Don't Get Shortchanged, Get Your Full 15-Minutes of Fame."** **Thursday:** 2:00pm to 3:30pm - **"Get Your Communication Sundae"** includes an invitation to students and student groups to ask questions. **Friday:** **"Who is the Assessment Idol?"** will be announced as well as quiz results and winner.

New and Improved SAAC Website

Finishing touches are being added to a new SAAC website scheduled to "go live" before the end of the spring 2011 semester. The website will provide inquisitive souls information on topic variety such as: times and location of SAAC scheduled work sessions, General Education Abilities definitions, campus academic divisions doing related assessment, and access to recent assessment results.

Faculty members looking to access SAAC EZ and Team EZ forms will find the log-in link to the EZ system on the new website. The same password protection required to access the system will continue to ensure that all documents attached to SAAC and Team EZ forms remain secure. The new website will also provide faculty, students, staff, and community members access to all SAAC related documentation, reports, updates, and announcements.

Assessment Cycles

In order to keep on track and close the loop for each of the general education abilities, the assessment cycle schedule below provides the currently agreed upon Assessment Cycle (approved by Faculty Senate in spring 2010):

Ability	Academic Year							
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Numeracy (Fall)	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2
Composition/Writing (Spring)	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2
Oral Communication (Fall)	0	1	2	3	1	2	3	1
Information Literacy (Spring)	0	1	2	3	1	2	3	1
Scientific Inquiry (Fall)	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	3
Technological Literacy (Spring)	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	3
Social, Civic & Global Responsibility (Spring)	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	3

Legend

0 = Planning of Assessment,

1 = Collect Data

2 = Evaluate

3 = Improve