

MAY 3, 2024

The AssessNews

Assessments in Action at Danville Area
Community College



A Message from the Assessment Director, Dr. Penny McConnell

As you can easily see, your Assessment Coordinator and Champions have been very busy. Their leadership (and YOUR hard work) resulted in a very successful HLC visit. They are working diligently to strengthen and streamline our assessment process by incorporating new tools and technology. They have scheduled another Assessment Day (complete with lunch from 11-12) to assist you in your assessment efforts.

And if they weren't busy enough, they decided to submit a proposal to present at the 2024 Assessment Institute in Indianapolis, the oldest and largest U.S. event focused on assessing and improving higher education. It should be no surprise to any of us that their proposal **Bottoms Up – Making Assessment Fun and Engaging** was accepted! They will be presenting a 60-minute concurrent session at the conference, which will feature 300+ unique educational sessions, including pre-Institute workshops, keynote addresses, poster sessions, many 60-minute concurrent sessions, and 20-minute Rise-and-Shine sessions. The conference planners anticipate there will be participants from all 50 states and several countries.

Please join me in congratulating your Assessment Coordinator and Champions on this wonderful opportunity to showcase DACC's assessment journey with our colleagues in higher education.

ISSUE 03

Newsletter Highlights

Assessment Day

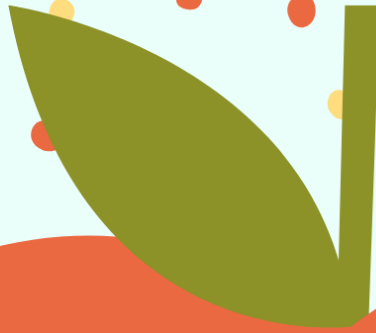
HLC Highlights

Program Spotlights

Important Dates

“Get to Know Your
Assessment Crew”
contest!





Mark your calendars

ASSESSMENT DAY 2024!

**Friday, May 10, 9:30am-noon
Lincoln Hall 205**

**Work with your Assessment Champions and
other members of your program to complete
your spring rubrics and the next section of
the PAR**

Lunch provided from 11am-noon

During the 2019 site visit, concern was raised about the college's adherence to Core Component 4.B - *The institution engages in ongoing assessment of student learning as part of its commitment to the educational outcomes of its students.*

In the 5 years since that visit, much work has been done to create a more robust, systematic approach to course and program assessments. We now have a process that allows members of each program to set a benchmark for student performance aligned with specific course, program, and general education outcomes. Program Assessment Reports (PAR) summarize the results and allow faculty to “close the loop” with changes to teaching methods or requests for additional resources. College administrators can reference the PAR requests when budget decisions are being made.

The hard work paid off on March 4 when the site visitors reviewed our current assessment efforts and gave their official stamp of approval. Kudos to all the faculty who have been engaged in this process of improving student learning!

On April 13-16, Dr. Penny McConnell was joined by 7 members of the Assessment and Teaching/Learning teams at the annual HLC conference in Chicago. Keynote presentations focused on the civic purpose of college and the impact of technology (particularly AI) on society. During the concurrent sessions, presentations focused on a variety of topics including accreditation, teaching and learning, AI, assessment, equity in the classroom, and student success. According to Stephen Hundley, Chair of the Assessment Institute in Indianapolis, watch words for 2024 include relevance, evidence and perseverance. As we all complete our spring assessment rubrics, update our program assessment reports and plan for the next round of assessment activities, let's keep those watch words in mind and continue to focus on how we can use assessment as a tool to improve student learning.

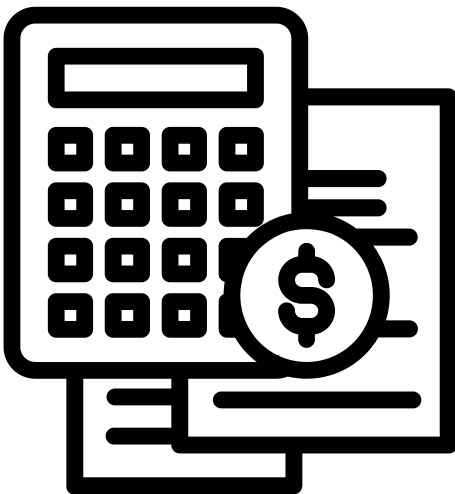
Assessment Spotlight -- The Accounting Program

For the 2023-2024 assessment cycle, each program was given the choice to assess any of the 4 general education outcomes. Angie Springer opted to assess Critical Thinking within the Accounting program, with a focus on students' skills during their introductory class (CACC 101 - Financial Accounting).

Each of 4 exams throughout the semester included a question assessing students' ability to analyze financial data. A student would reach the Competent level if they correctly answered at least 3 of the 4 exam questions, and the benchmark was set at 80% of the students reaching a level of Competent or above.

As it turned out, of the 29 total students who were assessed, only 45% met the threshold for competency. Angie noted that there was a significant difference in performance among the students who had at least some amount of in-person instruction (55% of students in both the face-to-face and hybrid sections but only 10% of students in the fully online class reached the Competent level.

None of the sections reached the benchmark of 80% competent, so Angie is making changes to incorporate more discussion and practice problems involving critical thinking into each of her courses. She'll re-assess and evaluate whether these changes are making a positive impact on her students' critical thinking skills.



Important Dates

May 8:

Spring Rubrics due - if you haven't submitted yours yet get it in soon so you can be entered into the next drawing!!

May 10:

- Assessment Day, 9:30am-noon, LH 205 (lunch provided, BYOB)
- Parts 3 and 4 of the PAR due

Coming soon: LMS integration

Starting in the fall 2024 semester, faculty will be able to create assessment activities and submit their data through Blackboard/Canvas using a Watermark product called Student Learning & Licensure (SL&L). With this integration, class rosters will be automatically populated, and faculty will simply need to select the appropriate rubric and click on the rankings for each student. Quick and easy!

Official training will happen during fall inservice, but for now take a look at these preview images of the process for integrating and using SL&L

Assessment

Build Content ▾ Assessments ▾ Tools ▾ Partner Content ▾

- Exam 2 sig fig assessment**
Availability: Item is hidden from students.
- Exam 2 sig fig assessment v2**
Availability: Item is hidden from students.
- Test activity**
Availability: Item is hidden from students.

Submissions by Status

- Awaiting Assessment (9/9)

Progress by Student

STUDENT NAME	AWAITING ASSESSMENT
[Redacted]	Published Jan 10, 2024 08:21 PM
[Redacted]	Published Jan 10, 2024 08:21 PM
[Redacted]	Published Jan 10, 2024 08:21 PM
[Redacted]	Published Jan 10, 2024 08:21 PM
[Redacted]	Published Jan 10, 2024 08:21 PM
[Redacted]	Published Jan 10, 2024 08:21 PM

Assessment Panel

Assessment & scoring

Fields marked with * are required.

Communication Rubric

View Rubric Details

0/0 - 0.00%

Elements	Low ...	Awar...	Und...	Usin...	N/A
ORGAN...	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CONTE...	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MECHA...	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PRESE...	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Clear Selection

Sample communication report

Category	Low Awareness	Using/Benefiting from	Awareness	N/A
ORGANIZATION ...		37.95% (85)		27.2%
CONTENT ...	8.04% (18)	38.39% (86)		
MECHANICS ...		53.57% (120)		
PRESENTATION ...	9.82% (22)	40.18% (90)		

Communication - chemistry

ORGANIZATION ...		100.00% (36)		
CONTENT ...		100.00% (36)		
MECHANICS ...	11.11% (4)	11.11% (4)	27.78% (10)	
PRESENTATION ...		100.00% (36)		

CONTEST: GET TO KNOW YOUR ASSESSMENT CREW

Can you match each member of the assessment team with his or her first car? [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to submit your guesses. You can try multiple times. The first person to correctly match all 6 cars will win a small prize!



Saturn S2



Ford Tempo



Geo Metro



Plymouth Reliant



Ford LTD



Ford Contour

