

AUGUST 11, 2025

The AssessNews

Assessments in Action at Danville Area
Community College



A Message from the Assessment Director, Dr. Penny McConnell

As you can see, our Assessment Champions have been BUSY. But, so have all of you. The Champs wouldn't have anything to report if each and every one of you weren't doing your part to make assessment of student learning a priority at DACC. I hope each of you has a productive fall semester. As always, thanks for all you do to help our students be successful.

ISSUE 04

Newsletter Highlights

HLC Academy (pg 2)
and conference
highlights (pg 4)

Assessment Institute
in Indianapolis (pg 3)

2024-2025
assessment
highlights (pg 5-6)

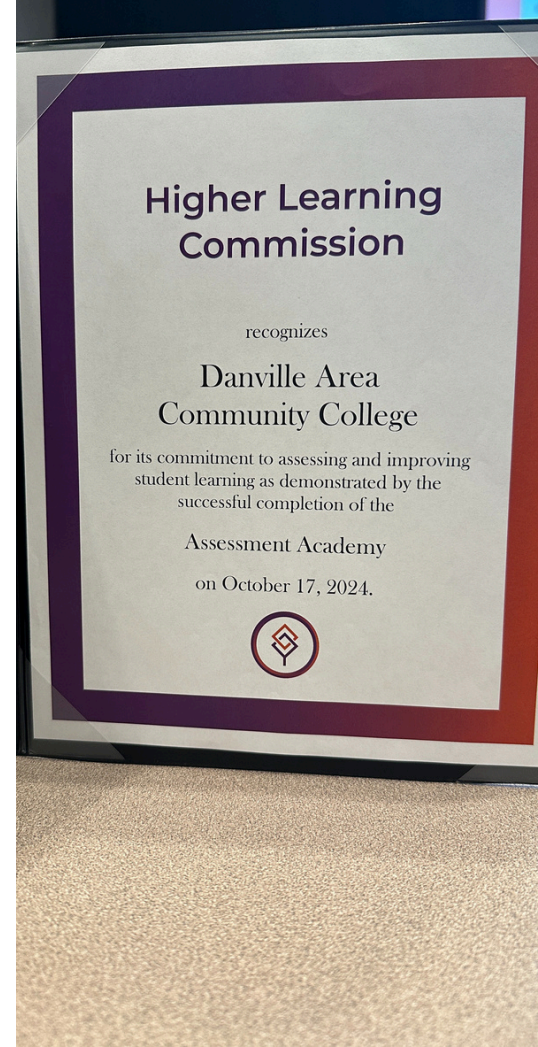
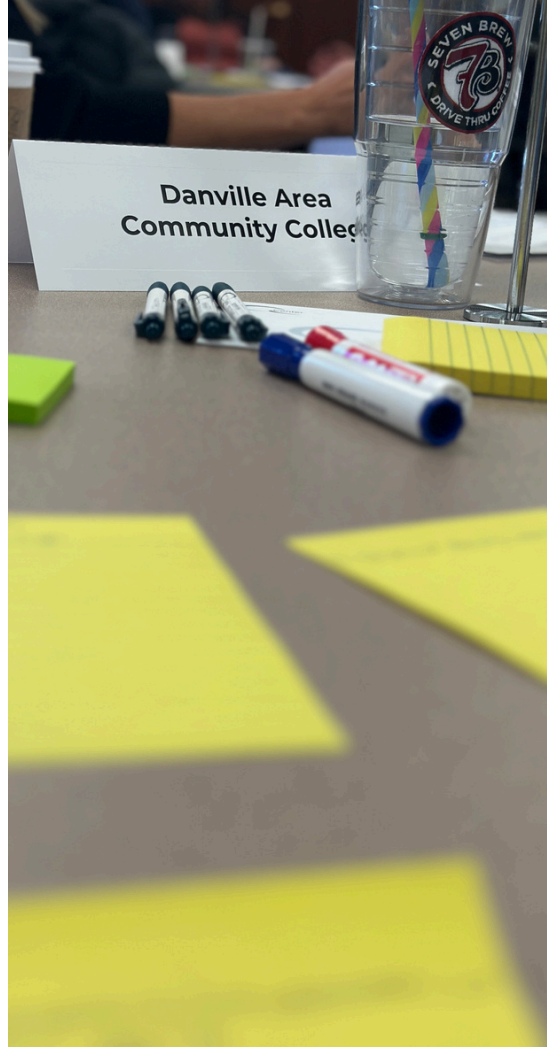
Important Dates
(pg 7)

Changes to the
Assessment Team
(pg 7)



The DACC Assessment Team joined the HLC Assessment Academy in 2020 and participated in a multi-year program to improve the culture and processes related to assessment on our campus.

The program culminated with a 2-day Results Forum in St Charles, IL. At this forum our team met with HLC mentors, presented a poster (see page 4) showing our improved assessment cycle, developed a new plan to keep assessment activities at DACC sustainable, and officially graduated from the Academy.





Bottoms UP

MAKING ASSESSMENT FUN AND ENGAGING

Assessment Institute in Indianapolis Fall 2024
Danville Area Community College Assessment Champions



Less than two weeks after completing the HLC Academy, the Assessment Team gave a presentation titled "Bottoms Up - Making Assessment Fun and Engaging" at the annual Assessment Institute in Indianapolis.

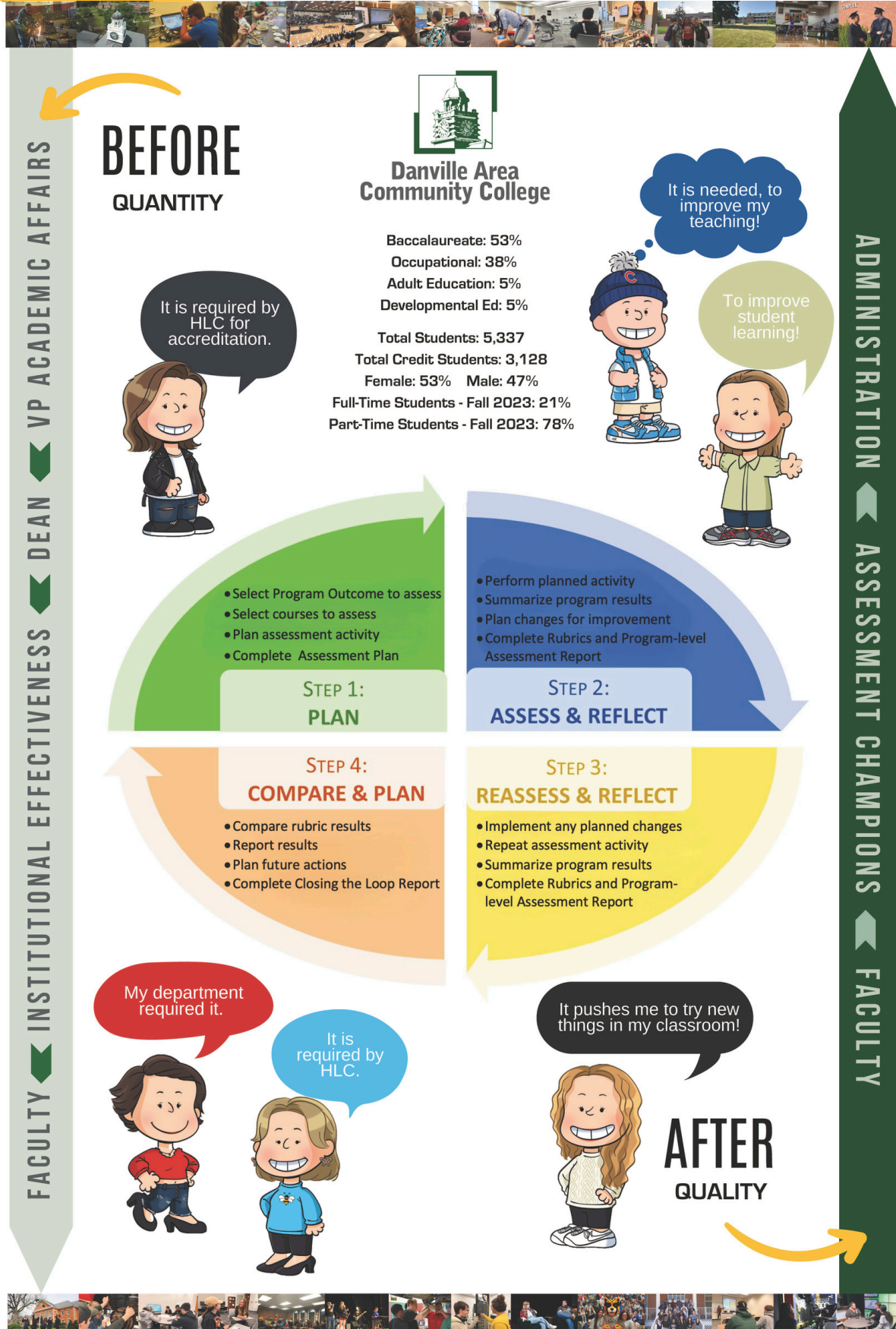
We shared our experiences with assessment at DACC and discussed all the changes made in the previous 4 years - designating Champions for each academic division, changing the report forms, incorporating common rubrics and eventually embedding them in our LMS, bringing faculty together for working sessions at the start and end of each semester and more. To keep things fun we also played our official assessment song, let the audience choose one of the competition videos to watch, and shot t-shirts into the audience with a cannon.

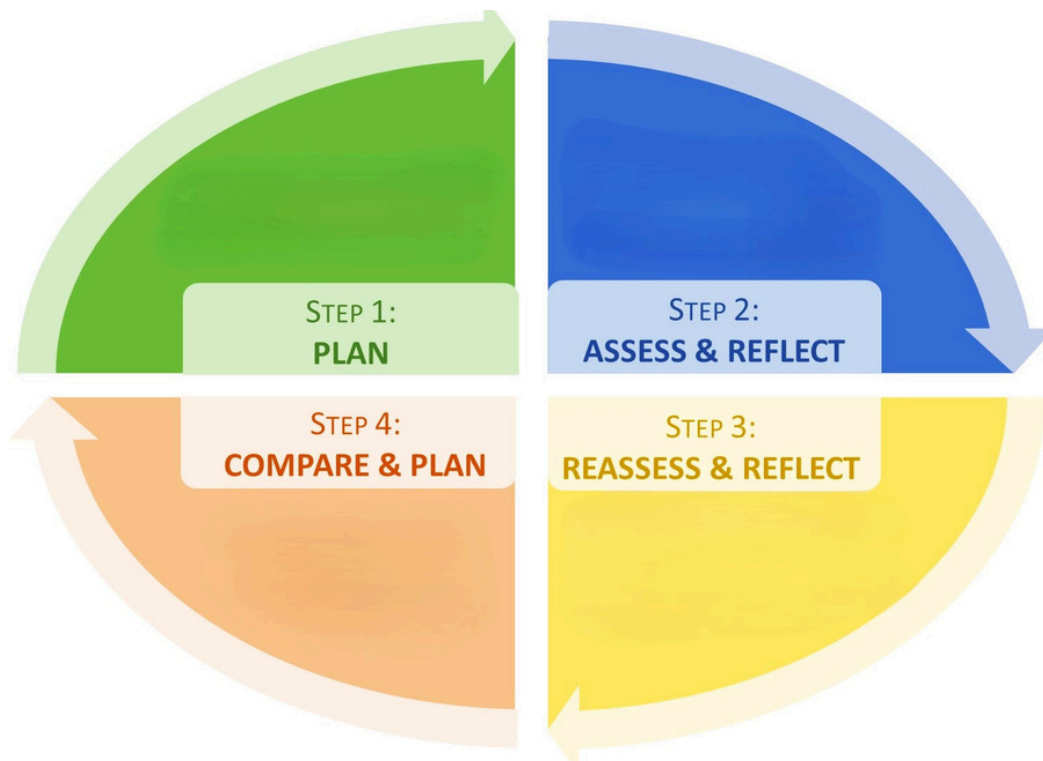


Two of our Assessment Champions - Stephanie and Ryan - attended the HLC conference in Chicago in April 2025 to present the DACC poster from the HLC Academy.

They talked to several people that were currently in the Academy and had questions about their own projects.

They also reported that it was nice to see DACC Associate Professor Jonathan Wade giving a talk at the conference.





During the 2024-2025 academic year, faculty met at the end of each semester to work on Program Assessment Report (PAR) forms. The forms were recently redesigned so that each one will tell a complete story of planning, implementation and analysis of the assessment activity used for a particular course or program. This is an improvement over the older version that required a different form for each step of the process.

Each program will begin the new 2025-2026 assessment cycle with a planning session during the fall in-service session.

FALL 2024

ASSESSMENT DAY!

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

MONDAY 12/9, 9-11:30 AM
LINCOLN HALL 205
BREAKFAST SERVED 9AM

SPRING 2025

ASSESSMENT DAY!

Work with the Assessment Champions and other members of your program to complete your spring rubrics and finalize the 2024-2025 PAR

THURSDAY 5/15, 9-11:30AM
LINCOLN HALL 204
REFRESHMENTS SERVED 9AM

Year I of LMS integration

This past year, faculty were 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 are automatically populated, faculty choose the appropriate rubric elements, and the data is instantly compiled for anyone who needs to access it. A few snapshots of the 2024-2025 Critical Thinking assessment results from the physical science program are shown below. A full data report from the year with results from all four college-wide general education outcomes (GEOs) will be available shortly, so keep an eye out for that!



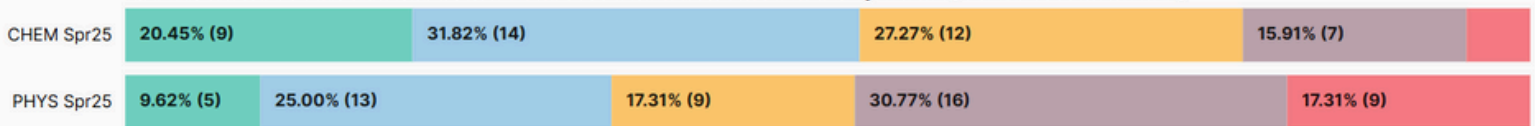
IDENTIFICATION Define problem, identify relevant information, def... (Total Assessments: 96)



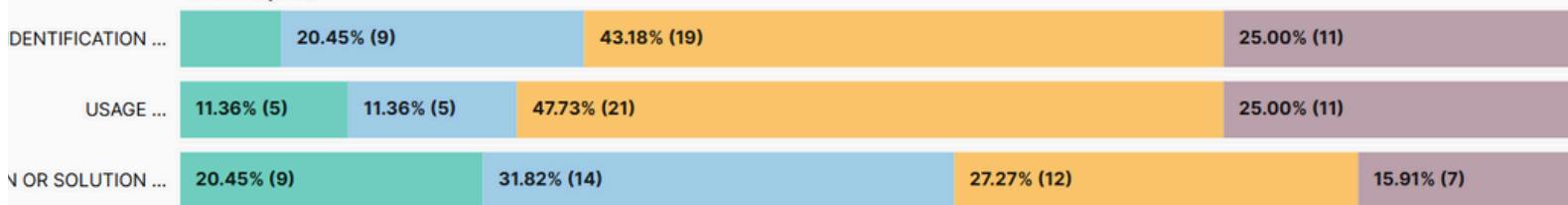
USAGE Frame questions, make predictions, and d... (Total Assessments: 96)



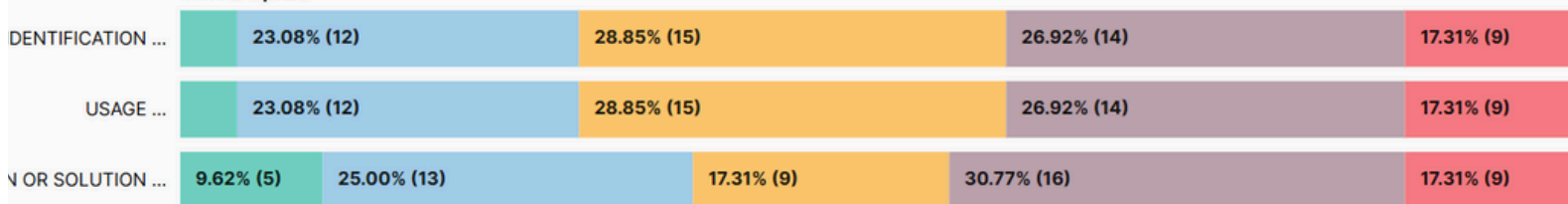
POSITION OR SOLUTION Form a conclusion based on the evidence and analysis of... (Total Assessments: 96)



CHEM Spr25



PHYS Spr25





Farewell Bailey!

Last month we said goodbye to Bailey Maxey, our DACC Director of Prison Education Programming and fellow assessment champion. Apparently, working in a prison and with Ryan Wyckoff wasn't challenging enough so she decided to trade in her assessment rubrics and data spreadsheets to become a big-shot PhD candidate in criminal justice at the University of Florida. Well that's one way to get out of doing assessments! Good job Bailey. And we wish you luck.



Important Dates for Faculty and Co-curriculars

Thursday August 14

- PAR planning session during in-service

Friday August 22

- Part 1 of the PAR due

Monday December 8

- Assessment Day, 9:00-11:30am, LH 205

Monday December 15

- Part 2 of the PAR due