

ASSESSMENT UPDATE

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CASL Members

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Melanie Burns
Janet Cosby
Mary Herrington-Perry
Christy Hooser
Mary Hogg, Chair
Debra Hopgood
Daiva Markelis
Andrew Methven
William Russell
Karla Sanders

Assessment website:
www.eiu.edu/~assess

Important Dates

The Speaking Across the Curriculum Subcommittee will be offering two workshops in the spring:

- ◆ **Tues., Feb. 24**, 2:00-3:15 p.m., "Applying the Oral Communication Rubric to Individual Speeches"
- ◆ **Thurs., April 8**, 11:00-12:15, "Applying the Oral Communication Rubric to Group Presentations"

Both workshops will be held in the **1895 Room of the MLK Union**, and refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to 581-6056 to reserve your space.

TRUDY BANTA TO VISIT EIU

For its annual assessment forum, CASL has invited Dr. Trudy Banta, Professor of Higher Education and Vice Chancellor for Planning and Institutional Improvement at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), to spend a day at Eastern consulting with faculty and administrators concerning assessment activities. This year's assessment forum will take place on **Thursday, February 5, 2004**.

As the founding editor of *Assessment Update* (A Jossey-Bass bimonthly newsletter) and author of 10 volumes on assessment, Dr. Banta is one of the nation's leading assessment experts. Her books include *Building a Scholarship of Assessment* (Jossey-Bass, 2002), *Assessment Essentials: Planning, Implementing and Improving Assessment in Higher Education* (with C. A. Palomba, Jossey-Bass, 1999),



and *Assessment in Practice: Putting Principles to Work on College Campuses* (with J. P. Lund, K. E. Black, and F. W. Oblander, Jossey-Bass, 1996). In addition to her publications, Dr. Banta has consulted with

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PROVOST'S ASSESSMENT AWARDS 2003

At the November 25, 2003 Council of Deans meeting, Dr. Blair Lord, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, announced the winners of the Provost's Awards for Achievement in Assessment for the 2002-2003 academic year. In its second year, three assessment awards were given to two departments.

The undergraduate program in Economics received the first place award of \$2500. Second place went to the undergraduate program in Chemistry with a \$1500 award, and third place was given to the graduate program in Economics with a \$1000 award.

CASL members Mary Hogg, Janet

Cosbey, and Melanie Burns aided the Provost in evaluating the submitted plans. Programs are nominated by the dean of each college.

Dr. Mary Ann Hanner, Dean of the College of Sciences, nominated all three of this year's winners. Dr. Hanner chose these programs to nominate because "They are very mature, comprehensive and extensive assessment programs." She noted that her college has "a core of faculty who are committed to advancing assessment" and added that "Showing outcomes and measuring change are part of the scientific method."

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TRUDY BANTA CONT.

faculty and administrators in 44 states, Puerto Rico, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates on the topic of outcomes assessment. She has been honored for her work by the National Council on Measurement in Education, AAHE, and the Assoc. for Institutional Research.

At the suggestion of our invited expert, we have created a schedule for representatives from the colleges to meet with her to discuss assessment questions. CASL strongly encourages deans, chairs, and faculty involved

with assessment to meet at their designated time and to bring specific questions for Dr. Banta. Following the college meetings, Dr. Banta will deliver a presentation in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of the MLK Union. The entire campus community is invited to attend this presentation, which will be followed by a reception in the Alumni Lounge.

All meetings with Dr. Banta will be held in the 1895 Room of the MLK Union. The schedule for the

Feb. 5 forum is as follows:

9:00 College of Sciences

10:00 College of Business and Applied Sciences and College of Continuing Education

11:00 College of Education and Professional Studies

12:00 Lunch with the Committee for the Assessment of Student Learning

1:30 College of Arts and Humanities

2:30 NCA Steering Committee

3:30 Presentation

4:30 Reception

AWARDS CONT.

When asked about assessment's role in the Economics Dept., Chair Karbassioon commented, "Assessment is both rewarding and challenging at the same time. It benefits the program; overall, it is good for the curriculum."

Several faculty members in the Economics department have been instrumental in the development and execution of this department's assessment plans. These faculty include: Larry Bates, chair of the assessment committee; Teshome Abebe, Jim Bruehler, Dell Champlin, Minh Dao, Paul Fahy, and Eric Heke.

Dr. Bates has spearheaded the assessment work in Economics since the early 1970s. He noted that, "We get some good information out of our plan. It makes everyone more conscious of us as a department rather than as individual scholars."

The Chemistry department has been involved with assessment for about five years. The following faculty have been involved in developing the plan in Chemistry: Bob Chesnut, Norbert Furumo, Ellen Keiter, Doug Klarup, Barbara Lawrence, Mark McGuire, and Dan Sheeran.



Chair Klarup credits the faculty with the success of his department's assessment work, "We have assessment embedded pretty well into the courses. We have a high participation rate from our faculty."

Each of the winning plans may be viewed at the assessment website under the heading of major assessment.

Pictured accepting the Provost's Awards for Achievement in Assessment are Dr. Mary Ann Hanner, Dean, College of Sciences; Dr. Ebrahim Karbassioon, Chair, Economics; Dr. Douglas Klarup, Chair, Chemistry; and Dr. Blair Lord, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.