Campus Assessment Showcases

STLCC Assessment, in conjunction with the Vice-Presidents of Academic and Student Affairs at each campus, has scheduled the following series of campus assessment showcases throughout the spring. Each is an opportunity for a campus to present selected division assessment efforts.

- Florissant Valley, Friday, March 27 from 12:30 to 2:00 in TC110
- Forest Park, Thursday, April 16th from 3:00 to 4:30 in L007
- Wildwood, Friday April 24th from 12:30 to 2:00 in Rm 105
- Meramec Wednesday, April 29 12:00 to 2:00 BA 105

Please feel free to drop in and learn more about how campus-based assessment is progressing at your campus this year.

Former STLCC Students Return to Help

Last year, the Mission-Based Transfer Assessment Committee recommended recruiting students who had successfully transferred from STLCC to UMSL to help inform our current students about the UMSL transfer process/experience. The intent was to provide a student-to- student “best practices” session.

Thanks to funding provided by the Vice Chancellor for Education and the efforts of the Office of Institutional Research, Planning and Assessment, along with the VPs for Student Affairs, that “seed” is about to bear fruit.

The plan is to have STLCC-to-UMSL transfer students describe what they believe are “best practices” for students planning to transfer from STLCC to UMSL. A corps of (ten) transfer student mentors has been selected to share their transfer experience(s) with STLCC students, to point out and show their fellow students the transfer “ropes.”

Three to four former STLCC students will appear and talk at each campus. The sessions have been scheduled for the following dates:

- Flo-Valley April 21st 12-2 in Multipurpose Room Student Center
- Meramec April 23rd 12-2 SC 201 (I believe that is the faculty lounge)
- Forest Park, April 28th 12-2 in the Highlander Lounge.

Snacks/refreshments for students who attend the sessions will be provided.
Currently On Campus: CCSSE & CCFSSE

The Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) survey is being conducted over the next several weeks (March 23 to April 3) on each campus. The student survey, done yearly, questions students at community colleges across the country to find out exactly what attributes to students feeling more engaged on campus. The survey identifies five benchmarks that affect student success: active collaboration and learning, student effort, academic challenge, student-faculty interaction, and support for learners. Campus coordinators orchestrating CCSSE distribution and retrieval are as follows:

- Ashok Agrawal – Florissant Valley
- Thao X. Dang-Williams – Forest Park
- Wil Loy – Wildwood
- Andrew Langrehr - Meramec

In addition, faculty are also being asked to complete the Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (CCFSSE) over the next few weeks. Developed in response to demand from the community college field, the Community College Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (CCFSSE) elicits information from faculty about their perceptions regarding students' educational experiences, their teaching practices, and the ways they spend their professional time—both in and out of the classroom.

Offered as a companion to the CCSSE student survey, CCFSSE is an online census survey that invites faculty at participating colleges to contribute their front-line perspectives on student engagement.

For more on CCSSE and its increasingly significant role in informing the public and changing the perceptions of and about community college students, read “Helping Community Colleges Raise the Bar,” Inside Higher Education (http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/11/17/ccsse).

Presentation at League for Innovation “Innovations ‘09”

John Cosgrove, Director of Institutional Research, Planning, And Assessment along with Larry McDoniel, Professor of English (Meramec Campus), led a lively discussion with 30 plus participants on “Assessment and Life (or Death) After Your Accreditation Visit” at the recent League for Innovation conference in Reno, Nevada. The point of the powerpoint presentation was that an “accreditation visit should encourage assessment efforts,” although it is also possible that assessment energies may leave with the self-study visiting team. This session examined pre-and-post accreditation strategies to sustain assessment momentum once the visiting team has left.

The powerpoint for this session will be available soon on both STLCC’s College Assessment site and the League for Innovation “Innovations” site.
Transition to AQIP Being Considered

Over the past two months, whether STLCC should choose AQIP as its approach to Higher Learning Commission accreditation is an issue that has been making the rounds of the St. Louis Community College governance councils. FYI sessions on AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Program), an accreditation approach offered by the Higher Learning Commission, at campus governance meetings have been provided to inform the councils of the attributes and the merits of AQIP.

Eventually, the Assessment Council and others will formally propose to governance that AQIP be adopted as the mechanism with which STLCC will meet its Higher Learning Commission accreditation obligation. The hope is that the College will officially apply for acceptance as an AQIP school during the ’09 – ‘10 academic year.

Let’s Do Lunch: Assessment of (STLCC) Assessment ‘09

Be sure to mark your calendar for STLCC’S year-end Assessment of Assessment. Faculty, staff, and administrators involved in assessment projects during 2008 – 2009 are invited to attend. The “Assessment of Assessment” has been (re)scheduled for Friday, May 1, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Meramec, SC 200 – 201.

Luncheon will be served at noon, with the deliberations on the following questions thereafter:

- To what extent is STLCC “closing the loop” on its assessment projects?
- Is STLCC ready for AQIP and/or how should it get ready?

Please rsvp by Monday, April 27 via email to Larry McDoniel, lmcdoniel@stlcc.edu, so that we can save you some space at the table.

Assessment Council Updates

The Assessment Council Meeting for March was cancelled. In addition, the Assessment Council meeting scheduled for April 17 has been moved to Friday, May 1, at Meramec, SC 200 – 201, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., in conjunction with the third annual “Assessment of Assessment” session.

STLCC Assessment Publications

Recent outreach attempts can be found on the College Assessment webpage. These include the following articles that appeared in League for Innovation publications:

- “St. Louis Community College Customizes Assessment,” iStream Project Highlight (League for Innovation; February 2009)  
  http://www.league.org/istreamSite/project_index.cfm?id=1041&Submit=Open+Edition
- “Assessment Is More Than Keeping Score: Moving From Inquiry, Through Interpretation, To Action,” League Abstracts (February 2009, Volume 12, Number 2)  
  http://www.league.org/blog/post.cfm/assessment-is-more-than-keeping-score-moving-from-inquiry-through-interpretation-to-action
Assessment Calendar

2008-09 Meeting Schedule
STLCC Assessment Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>M SC 200-201 [Assessment of Assessment]</td>
<td>12:00 – 4:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>W Multipurpose Room 102, Side B</td>
<td>2:30 – 4:00</td>
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Conferences on Assessment

2009 NC State Undergraduate Assessment Symposium
Cary, NC April 24-April 26, 2009
The mission of the Symposium is to provide a forum for higher education professionals to exchange ideas, discover new practices and form partnerships to enhance the full undergraduate educational experience through assessment. The Symposium is designed to address both practical concerns and larger policy issues by providing attendees with ideas and tools that can be immediately shared and implemented at their home institutions, which range from community colleges to large research universities.

International Assessment & Retention Conference
New Orleans, Louisiana June 10 - 13, 2009
The International Assessment and Retention Conference is intended to be a "big tent" conference. Like the annual conferences once run by the American Association for Higher Education, this conference deals with topics of both policy and practice, and it is aimed at higher education professionals interested in and committed to the improvement of student learning. Thus it is designed, as the AAHE conferences were, to create conversations relevant to and benefiting professionals in Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Institutional Research.

The International Association for Educational Assessment - 2009 Conference
Brisbane, Australia September 13-18, 2009
The International Association for Educational Assessment offers a global forum for all those involved in all forms of educational assessment – in primary or secondary schools, colleges or the workplace. Its members include examining bodies, university departments, research organizations and government agencies from more than 50 countries on all continents.

Important STLCC Assessment Links
- Assessment Resources http://www.stlcc.edu/Faculty_and_Staff_Resources/Assessment/Assessment_Resources.html
- Assessment Public Site http://www.stlcc.edu/Faculty_and_Staff_Resources/Assessment/