College of Arts and Sciences

Assessment Committee

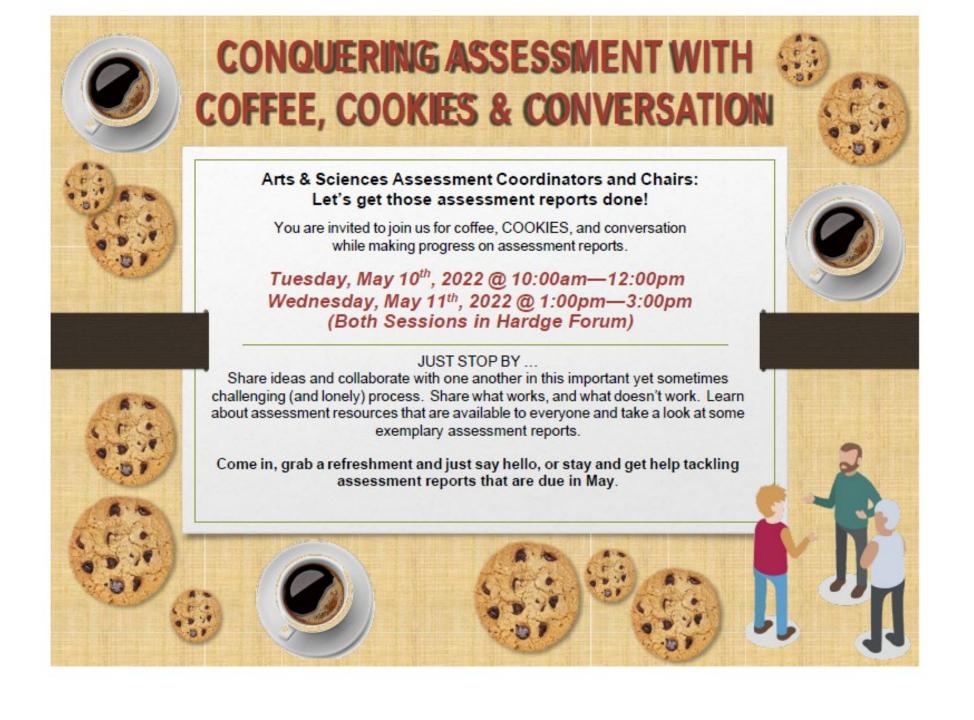
Spring 2022 Report Committee Chair: Open

Committee Members: Alana Bibeau, Crystal Greene, James Horban, Martha Waitkun, Michael Barrus, Ping Xu, Stephanie West-Puckett

Ex Officio: Nedra Reynolds

FULL Reports Due	
Unde	rgrad Accredited
Chem	istry, BA, BS; Chemistry & Forensic Chemistry, BS
Music	, BA, BM
Unde	rgrad Non-Accredited
Africa	na Studies, BA
Art an	d Art History, BA
Comp	uter Science, BA/BS
Econo	omics, BA, BS
Film N	Лedia, BA
Histor	y, BA
Intern	ational Studies and Diplomacy, BS (first report)
Journ	alism, BA
Mathe	ematics, BA, BS
Physic	cs, BA, BS and Physical Oceanography, BS
Politic	cal Science, BA
Public	Relations, BA
Grad	Non-Accredited
Comn	nunication Studies, MA
Englis	h MA, PhD
Politic	cal Science, MPA

- **INTERIM Reports Due Undergrad Non-Accredited** Anthropology BA Art Studio BFA Chinese BA Communication Studies BA **English BA** French BA Gender & Women's Studies BA German BA Italian BA Philosophy BA Sociology BA Spanish BA Sports Media and Communications BA Theatre BA/BFA Writing & Rhetoric BA **Grad Non-Accredited** Computer Science MS, PhD Cyber Security Professional Science MS History MA Statistics MS
- Assessment report due for these programs in May or June this year.
- All programs should have received reminders from the Assessment Office.



Request to change Assessment report cycle from 2 years to 3 years!

We drafted an official request letter to the Assessment Office.

We will collect signatures at the Coffee and Cookie Events on 5/10 & 5/11

Dear Assessment Office,

We would like to first thank your office for the wonderful mentorship and partnership that you have generously provided to all programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, which helped improve the quality of our assessment work immensely. Over the past few years, the College of Arts and Sciences' Assessment Committee has discussed the report cycle issue many times. We would like to make a formal request to your office to see if you could please change the assessment report review cycle from 2 years to 3 years. This change will potentially benefit all of us for a few important reasons:

First, with the current two-year cycle, there is a lack of time for planning, data collection, data analysis, writing up a meaningful report on the selected learning objectives. More importantly, there is almost no time for programs to reflect upon the assessment evidence and come up with suggestions for change. Adding an extra third year will allow programs sufficient time for meaningful "self-study" or "self-reflection" and help them effectively "close the loop."

Second, with the pandemic, faculty and staff all feel overwhelmed by the increase of work and family responsibilities. Many assessment coordinators feel rushed in a 2-year cycle, some of them even feel trapped in the role of assessment coordinators. Adding an extra year in the cycle would relieve some of the stress felt by the assessment coordinators. More importantly, it can allow mentoring and a passing of the torch in the third year, which will make our college have more faculty members being better prepared for assessment work.

Third, many departments and programs felt that it is important to integrate their assessment report cycle with their departmental external review cycle. Departmental external reviews are held once every 6 years. Changing the assessment cycle into 3 years will make departments align their assessment efforts and departmental review efforts.

Fourth, we have carefully reviewed the NECHE standards, which suggests that each institution should "regularly and systematically [evaluate] the achievement of its mission and purposes...Information obtained through this evaluation is used to revise these efforts and services and improve their achievement." NECHE only emphasizes regular and systematic assessment work, but does not necessarily state that a 2-year cycle is better than a 3-year cycle. We feel that a 3-year assessment cycle will not only allow us to make quality improvements in our assessment work, but also help relieve the stress of assessment coordinators.

As a college, we have had discussions on this issue for a few years, and we felt that now is the good time to make a change like this. With the pandemic, your office has made interim reports as an option. We hope that you can change the interim report track and make it a third year to be added into a full report cycle.

Respectfully,

College of A&S Assessment Committee