

General Education Assessment

1. We discussed the institutional and general education assessment plans and plan to continue the work of revising these plans to more accurately reflect assessment of the Goals for Student Learning and Development. We will confer with CEPP on what would be most useful to their deliberations as they consider a revision of the general education curriculum. We conducted numerous mapping exercises, mapping the Goals to the curriculum and co-curriculum, and will continue this process as the general education plan evolves.
2. The main project for the Assessment Subcommittee (AS) for 2012-13 was to create two climate reports, one on faculty satisfaction and one on campus climate for students. These reports were presented to the IPPC in September, 2013; the recommendations were acted upon and the reports were updated as needed. We recommend that the reports be consulted and updated periodically and we discussed ways to present the results to the College community.
3. A working group formed from the AS (Corey Freeman-Gallant, Denise McQuade, Lisa Christenson) designed and conducted an assessment of science literacy and quantitative reasoning. The report will be presented to CEPP and IPPC with the intention of using the results to inform future revision of the general education curriculum and the QR requirement. This was our major general education assessment for the year.
4. With CEPP's approval, we plan for an assessment of visual communication to comprise the all-college assessment for 2014-15. To that end, we applied for funds for assessment as part of a grant proposal on visual communication; this proposal was funded and we will continue the work of assessing visual communication in 2014-15.

Department and Program Assessment

5. All (100%) of departments and programs submitted annual assessment reports this year. We believe that faculty are beginning to see the value in the assessments that we're asking for: small, useful projects that address a question or problem in the department, and that relate to student learning. We now provide feedback to each report with a point-by-point response, and we have heard from faculty that they appreciate the feedback and also appreciate knowing that their reports are not going into a black hole.

Co-curricular Assessment

6. We have begun assessment of study abroad with a pilot assessment of Skidmore in Madrid, in collaboration with Prof. Soledad Galvez, who teaches a course "Imaging the Americas".

Re-accreditation

7. Skidmore's MSCHE reaccreditation process began this year with the decision to do a selected topics self-study with a focus on integrative learning. We submitted a self-study design to the MSCHE in December of 2013, which we revised after consultation with our MSCHE liaison, Christy Faison. We plan to convene working groups in the fall of 2014, have a draft of a document by the summer of 2015, and submit the final draft in late fall 2015 for a spring 2016 evaluation team visit. Because we are doing a selected topics self-study we will show compliance with the Standards with an early document review and we will begin compiling a document collection immediately.