

College of Arts and Sciences State of Assessment Report

2013-2014 Assessment Period

Overview:

As it is by far the largest college at UNM, building a culture of continuous assessment in the College of Arts and Sciences is an ongoing process that the College is strongly invested in. Approximately half of our 108 programs have submitted an assessment report at some point; however, over the past few years, we have succeeded in getting more programs to put assessment plans in place so we anticipate increased participation in coming years.

In the 2013-2014 assessment year, the College began increasing outreach efforts through individual meetings as well as workshops for programs beginning assessment efforts and those more experienced in this regard. They also introduced the Learning Improvement Awards program, which provides programs up to \$1000 to use to improve their assessment processes or curriculum. They convened a CARC each semester, which met and provided feedback on reports submitted by programs. CARC members were all provided with a stipend to reward their service and were drawn from diverse departments in the college to help build assessment expertise across the college. Looking forward, the College has increased its investment in assessment by tying some departmental funding to annual degree program reporting and has worked to build more resources for departments, which is discussed in more detail below.

Academic Program Maturity Rubric Scoring and Evaluation

Because active reporting is being done by approximately half our degree programs, our maturity scores are a work in progress. However, a number of departments have been very strong and dedicated to assessment, so we commend them for their work.

Our primary goal at this point is to build departmental engagement with assessment, which involves providing incentives, workshops, and additional resources to develop effective assessment plans. We anticipate higher participation for the 2014-2015 cycle for a few different reasons:

- the College has tied some department funding to active participation in assessment processes, including the submission of annual program assessment reports.
- the College has been working to make existing work public and provide additional resources to departments by dedicating a section of its website to assessment.
- the College has moved to a more formal CARC structure, which meets monthly for the entire academic year and engages in strategic planning in addition to the more basic function of evaluating reports and assessment plans. Members are provided with stipends in exchange for their service.