

Assessment & APR Quarterly

A publication from the UNM
Office of Assessment & Academic Program Review

August 2025

Welcome Eva Rodriguez-Gonzalez to the OAAPR

Eva is joining the office in an Assessment Faculty Advisor role. Eva brings years of college assessment experience and expertise from UNM's College of Arts & Sciences. The office is excited to have Eva share and apply her faculty lens to institutional assessment.

AY 24-25 ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW (APR) HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past year, 9 main campus academic units completed reviews. Below is a summary of key themes threaded throughout the review team reports. A full report will be available soon on the APR website.

Curriculum

Curriculum remains central to academic excellence. Review teams emphasized the importance of aligning programs with:

- National disciplinary standards
- UNM 2040 goals
- Industry demands
- Student interests in practical application, technology, and experiential learning

Reviewers emphasized the importance of programs reassessing curriculum for relevance, flexibility, sustainability, and equity, ensuring it reflects and reinforces the program's identity.

Student Experience

Reviewers praised efforts to foster student engagement through:

- Strong cohorts (shared coursework, study groups, social events)
- Faculty involvement beyond the classroom
- Personalized advising and inclusive environments
- High-quality mentorship

Student Professional Development

Students continue to seek more structured professional development, including:

- Opportunities embedded within coursework
- Guest speakers and career exposure (academic and non-academic)
- Expanded TA/GA opportunities with equitable workloads and competitive support
- Consideration of mandatory Individual Development Plans (IDPs) in graduate programs

Faculty Support

To support faculty success, reviewers recommend:

- Clear, consistent policies on workload and promotion
- Improved communication channels within departments

Institutional Support

Reviewers called for stronger institutional systems to support departments, including:

- Alumni tracking
- Central advising equipped for interdisciplinary and small programs
- Transparent hiring plans that consider curriculum needs, accreditation, and enrollment
- Incentives for interdisciplinary collaboration and structured partnerships
- Executive support for morale, collaboration, and strategic planning

Assessment

Assessment was reported as essential but uneven. Reviewers noted resource and staffing challenges hinder assessment efforts

Recommendations:

- External partnerships to evaluate curriculum
- Standardized rubrics and broader assessment tools
- Inclusion of diverse stakeholder feedback
- Disaggregated data analysis by student demographics

APR Mid-Cycle Themes

9 ABQ campus academic units participated in mid-cycle APRs. The following themes emerged from programmatic meetings with leadership and campus partners.

- **Accreditation:** Units with independent accreditation need institutional support to meet faculty size and student-faculty ratio requirements, as well as long-term resource planning.
- **Workload & Staffing:** Faculty report service fatigue; staff roles are becoming overly generalized; long-term vacancies are burdensome. Students increasingly seek personal support, placing additional demands on faculty. A student-facing tool like WayFinder was suggested.
- **Facilities & Technology - Student's needs:**
 - Extended lab hours
 - More equipment and staffing
 - Funding for maintenance and modernization

Fall 2025 Workshops

Assessment Jumpstart

Friday, September 12th 10-11am

Are you a new instructor, faculty member, chair or assessment coordinator/director? Come learn about and discuss the UNM assessment cycles (both GE and Academic), including expectations.

Essential Skills & Rubrics: Your Resource for Gen Ed Success

Wednesday, September 17th 10-11am

Join CTL and special guests from the UNM Office of Assessment to get the inside scoop on essential skills and rubrics that you can use and adapt for your General Education courses. The workshop will introduce you to the rubrics, give you strategies for adapting them for an assignment or activity, and help you incorporate metacognitive strategies within your course to help students be able to articulate the transferable skills they are learning. (ctl.unm.edu)

Aligning GE Assignments for GE Curriculum and Assessment

Friday, September 19th 10-11am

Are you a new instructor, faculty member, chair or assessment coordinator/director? Come learn about and discuss the UNM assessment cycles (both GE and Academic), including expectations.

Feedback that Counts: Designing and Implementing a Mid-Semester Survey

Thursday, September 25th 1-2pm

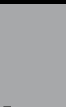
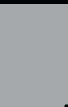
This workshop includes a brief introduction of theoretical rationale of a mid-semester survey and tools that instructors can use. Participants will also have an opportunity to design questions for the mid-semester check-in in their classes to increase students' motivation, autonomy, and academic success. (ctl.unm.edu)

Annual GE Workshop: Results and Future Actions

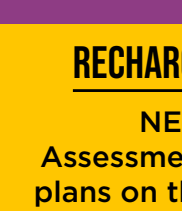
Friday, October 24th 10-11am

Join us for General Education AY24-25 assessment results and emerging trends! This workshop will share updates, reflections, and next steps for the AY25-26 GE cycle.

[Find registration information on the OAAPR website.](#)



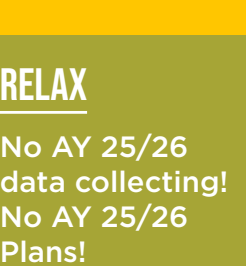
Academic Assessment AY 25/26



SUBMIT
Submit
AY 24/25
Reports.

RECHARGE

NEW
Assessment
plans on the
horizon



RELAX
No AY 25/26
data collecting!
No AY 25/26
Plans!

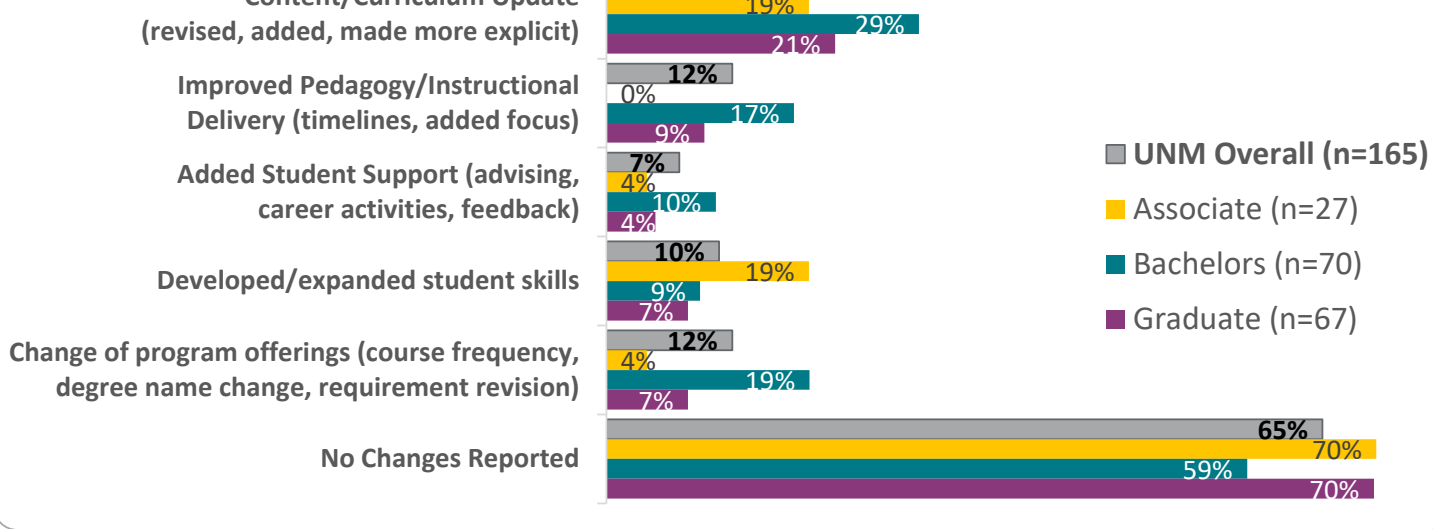
RESET

Plan for
assessment:
Retreats,
committees,
workshops!

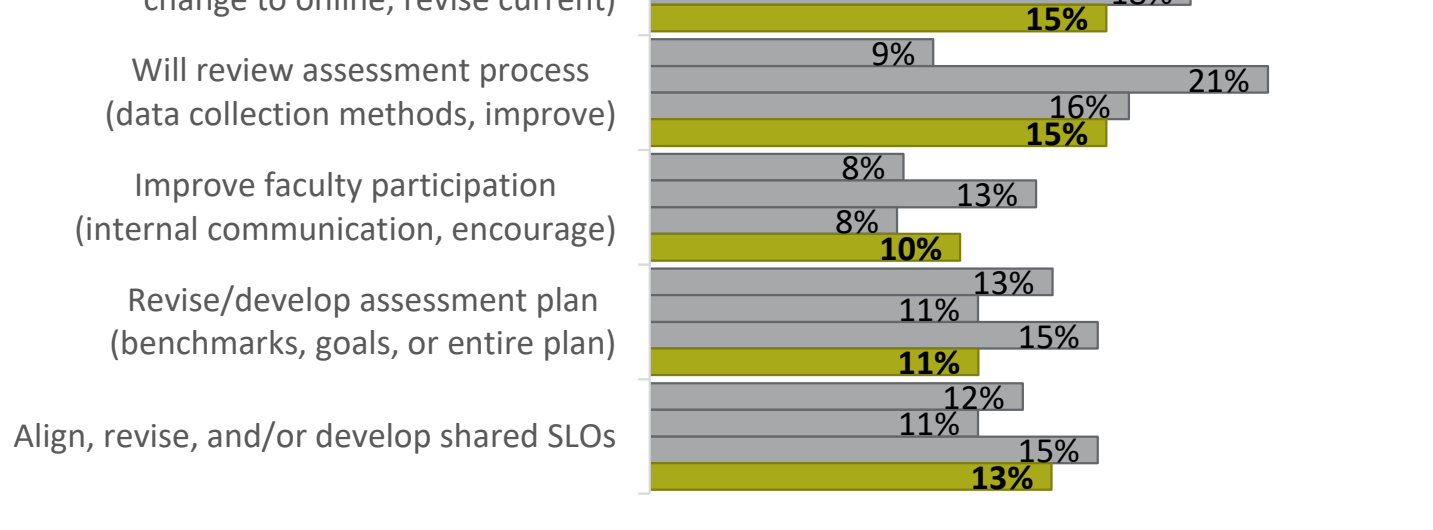


What Impact is Academic Assessment Making?

The most common **program revisions** for any degree level are content and curriculum updates (24%) (i.e., revisions, additions, clarifications). Undergraduate degrees have marked a considerable increase in improved pedagogical/instructional changes (17%) and change in program offerings (19%), indicating a conscious effort to connect assessment and curriculum development.



Assessment changes are consistently occurring to address shifts in student populations, curriculum, accreditation, APRs and strategic planning.



Changes to assessment measures and holistic process reviews are the most common assessment actions. Revising or developing assessment plans and aligning shared SLOs

Schedule an appointment

Questions about incorporating assessment into your program, course, or your upcoming APR? Come talk to us!

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THANK YOU!

Peter Lisignoli - College of Fine Arts
Peni Wolpo - UNM Los Alamos
Eva Rodriguez-Gonzalez - College of Arts & Sciences

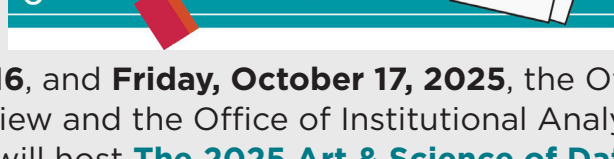
for your service and contributions to UNM's assessment culture! It has been a pleasure working with you on learning improvement, program assessment and student success metrics. Your work has been greatly appreciated by the Provost Committee on Assessment. Wishing you success in your next endeavors and hoping we work together again.

Data Den by Elizabeth Kerl

On a cold day in January of 2020, a group of 50 data nerds gathered at a new institutional event in Dane Smith Hall to talk about our craft. In years following, it was moved online, then merged with Tech Days. However, some of us have been missing that special place just for data; be it data literacy, technical requests, or training for the data rich future. And so we are excited to announce...

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

The Art & Science of Data: From Numbers to Narratives



On **Thursday, October 16**, and **Friday, October 17, 2025**, the Office of Assessment and Academic Program Review, in collaboration with Academic Affairs, will host **The 2025 Art & Science of Data: From Numbers to Narratives**. This hybrid data event is designed to empower faculty, staff and students with analytical skills and strategic insights necessary to effectively utilize institutional data. Participants will learn to interpret data within the context of their academic units and projects to craft compelling, evidence-based narratives that enhance decision-making and communication.

- [Find Our Call for Presenters Here](#): The CFP opened on August 1st and will close on Sept. 1st at 5 pm
- [Find Our Registration Form Here](#): The Registration is set to open on September 15 at 6 am and to close on October 10 at 5 pm.

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