

William Paterson University Faculty Senate Councils
Year-End Report

Academic Year 2020-2021

1. **Council:** Assessment
2. **Council Members:** Cara Berg (chair), Joelle Tutela (chair, ex-officio), Mike Chao (ex-officio), Bela Florenthal (ex-officio), Jyoti Champanerkar (ex-officio), Michael Laughlin, Amy Ginsberg, Heejung An, Julie Nagle, Priya Nagaraj, Sesime Adanu, Megan Conrad, Michael DaSilva.

3. **Council Charges and Summary of Activities:**

Standing Charges*:

1. Inform and educate the university community regarding issues and trends in relation to assessment (e.g., via an annual newsletter, and annual university forum).
2. Act as consultants for assessment projects campus-wide, including program reviews.

**Please note: the standing charges listed above are what appear in the Bylaws. The ones listed under "standing charges" on the website list a definition of assessment but not the charges listed above.*

Priority Charges for AY 2020-2021:

1. Continue to work on the charge with the Advisement and Registration Council.
2. Work with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness to determine how the Council can inform and support their assessment efforts.
3. Continue to collect data on faculty experiences with assessment activities
4. Review, analyze, and disseminate results of assessment survey data. Prepare a report to the Senate that will outline findings and provide recommendations, for steps that can be taken to improve assessment activities.

2020-2021 Summary of Activities:

1. Continue to work on the charge with the Advisement and Registration Council.
 - After meeting with the chair of the Advisement and Registration Council, the council chairs determined that this initial charge (first disseminated in 2018) was written when advisement activities on campus were different. It was suggested by the chairs of Advisement and Assessment to the Senate Executive Committee that other groups on campus dealing with assessment, such as the Office of Institutional Effectiveness would be better served to assist the Advisement Council.
2. Work with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness to determine how the Council can inform and support their assessment efforts.

- Sesime Adanu, Director, is a member of the council and has been part of discussions.
3. Continue to collect data on faculty experiences with assessment activities
 - The Assessment Council reviewed feedback from the faculty survey (spring 2020) and made recommendations.
 - Developed an additional survey (Spring 2021) that was recently distributed to faculty and adjuncts about assessment in remote learning. The council sought feedback on the questions asked from Associate Provost Sandy Hill, who assisted in the distribution.
 4. Review, analyze, and disseminate results of assessment survey data. Prepare a report to the Senate that will outline findings and provide recommendations, for steps that can be taken to improve assessment activities.
 - The council chairs reported the survey results and recommendations at the November 24, 2020, Faculty Senate meeting. Recommendations from the faculty were incorporated into the Spring 2021 survey.

5. Recommended Charges for the Next Academic Year:

1. Analyze the results of Faculty Assessment survey (spring 2021)
2. Report findings and recommendations to the Senate
3. Continue to work with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness to promote resources

6. Please provide suggestions for how the council can be better utilized in the next year:

Although we are content meeting the priority charges for this year, the council still struggles with its ultimate purpose. Recently, two new assessment groups have been formed on campus and there is overlap within those groups and membership on the Assessment Council. The Council wants to be utilized in a way that assists the campus community but does not duplicate work. Members also expressed confusion at the large number of people on the council due to the inclusion of the college assessment coordinators and have requested a membership list be updated. The council is hoping for clarification between the major assessment groups for the next upcoming year. A meeting with all the assessment needs to be planned in fall 2021 to clarify the roles and responsibilities.