

A message from the president on assessment

By: Dr. Josh Bullock, President

Assessing the functions and outcomes of any organization is essential to its viability and credibility. We see this in a variety of industries and sectors, but narrowing the focus of assessment to the context of higher education, especially here at Lake Land College, is important because it allows each of us to make informed decisions that ultimately improve the teaching-learning process and our students' success.

Assessment at Lake Land is something in which each and every individual should be involved as it ensures that we offer the highest quality of academic and educational programming and services for our students. The college-wide assessment program is vital to guaranteeing that we provide students with the skills and competencies they need in order to become crucial members of the workforce and communities throughout east central Illinois.

By participating in the assessment process as educational professionals, we are held accountable for the education we provide students. It's no longer enough to simply use end-of-the-term grades as a measure of student learning. Organizations like the Higher Learning Commission look to assessment as a way of evaluating the effectiveness of our organization and its programs. With the upcoming site visit and re-accreditation process, timely assessment results and analysis are absolutely vital to ensure that we are achieving and exceeding our institution-wide goals.



Lake Land College uses institution-wide measures and program and course-specific measures to assess student outcomes. Learner outcomes have been established for each of the college's associate degree and certificate programs, as well as all other courses. Beyond campus-wide processes, the college also reaches out to a variety of business and industry leaders who provide input on industry standards and changes so that the college maintains up-to-date, quality course offerings. In fact, Lake Land currently works with more than 200 area professionals and industry leaders who volunteer their time to ensure a high level of academic programs at the college. Known as Professional Advisory Committees, these groups support the growth and quality of nearly every program of study at Lake Land College. Each component of assessment is working toward evaluating the student experience.

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Weave Due Dates

<https://app.weaveonline.com/llc/login.aspx>

February 15th or before

Fall Course Assessment Results/Findings

May 15th

Program Assessment Results/Findings & ICCB Program Review

September 15

Institutional Assessment Results/Findings

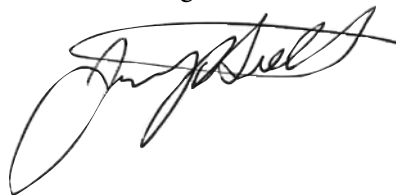
September 30th or before

Spring Course Assessment Results/Findings



We are continuously learning from the assessment process in order to make necessary changes and plans of action to ensure that every student at Lake Land College is provided with a continuous

learning environment. In essence, assessment is a critical component in the process of engaging minds and changing lives through the power of learning.



2013 General Education Assessment

By: Lisa Madlem, Professional Development and Assessment Facilitator

During February Assessment Month, four general education areas were assessed: Listening/Observing; Foundational Knowledge; Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) Writing Skills; and Diversity. A total of 737 students were administered assessments (508 of those being the target group of sophomores.) Students were assessed on their ability to communicate professionally and effectively through Listening and Observing by viewing a DVD which was provided by Innovative Staff Solutions of Mattoon, IL. The test on Foundational Knowledge was developed by the General Education Task Force and faculty. Students were assessed in four academic areas: Earth and Life Sciences, and Geography; Humanities and Communication; Social Sciences; and Mathematics and Physical Sciences. Each section of the

Foundational Knowledge test contained a word bank of 30 words accompanied by a 15-question test. The Diversity assessment involved two prompts administered to students: "We Real Cool" poem by Gwendolyn Brooks; and pictures of famous mosques. Students were asked to write essays for each prompt and were assessed on recognizing the unique characteristics of others through understanding diverse culture contributions. Lastly, students were assessed on their Writing ability (students will communicate professionally and effectively through writing) in two areas: 1) The CAAP Writing skills 72 standardized test questions; and 2) essays written for the diversity prompts.

What follows are the results of the four areas assessed in general education:

LISTENING/OBSERVING RESULTS:

LLC Student Average Score	Possible Points	Percentage
7.27	9.0	80.7%

FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE RESULTS:

LLC Student Average Score	Possible Points	Percentage
41.6	60	69.3%

DIVERSITY RESULTS:

LLC Student Average Score	Possible Points	Percentage
<i>Diversity Prompt Essay</i> 1.93	4.0	48%
<i>Writing Prompt</i> 6.40	12.0	53%

CAAP WRITING RESULTS:

	Lake Land College	National Norm
Overall score	62.2	61.5
Usage/mechanics	16.2	15.9
Rhetorical	16.2	15.8

Activities

- Oct. 27-29 IUPUI Assessment Institute in Indianapolis
- Feb. 2014 – Assessment Month and General Education Assessment
- April 2014 – HLC Conference in Chicago
- March 2015 – HLC site visit

What is assessment?

Assessment is a term used to describe the process of measuring student learning, and using the results to improve Lake Land's institutional non-academic areas, academic programs, courses and the general education curriculum.

Assessment assists instructors to evaluate whether students are achieving identified outcomes/objectives and provides information to improve a course, program or department.

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