Oklahoma State University Committee for the Assessment of General Education and The Office of University Assessment and Testing Annual Report, 2015

Committee for the Assessment of General Education:
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Melanie Bayles, Ph.D., Plant and Soil Sciences
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Joint Meeting of CAGE, GEAC, and AAIC

During the discussion during the March 2014 joint meeting of the Council for the Assessment of General Education (CAGE), the General Education Advisory Council (GEAC), and the Academic Assessment and Improvement Council (AAIC), it was proposed that revisions be made to the assessment process for the Science Reasoning and Diversity general education outcomes. Two subcommittees were formed, one for each outcome. The members of CAGE, GEAC, and AAIC present at the joint meeting agreed that no general education assessment would take place during the summer of 2015, and instead the newly formed committees would meet to begin planning for the new assessment processes of the two outcomes.

Committee Discussions

Diversity

The Diversity subcommittee suggested a multidimensional approach to assessing Diversity. First, the standard practice of collecting written artifacts and having them assessed by faculty raters will continue; artifacts will be collected during Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters, and will be evaluated during Summer 2016. Additionally, the Global Perspectives Inventory (GPI) is being administered during Fall 2015 and Spring 2015. The GPI assesses how students think about their own cultures as well as how they relate to individuals whose cultures and values are different from their own. During Fall 2015, the GPI will be administered to a random sample of 1000 first-year students; during Spring 2016, the GPI will be administered to a random sample of 1000 graduating students. The GPI is administered online by Iowa State University. Finally, a small sample of students (N=≤25) will be invited to participate in a qualitative assessment process using the PhotoVoice technique. The PhotoVoice project and related focus groups will be conducted in Spring 2016.

Science Reasoning

Discussion of Science Reasoning is ongoing. No definite plan has been finalized at this time.

