

## Action Plan Template

Description of Project: TAMUK set out to improve assessment procedures for the General Education curriculum, including everything from streamlining the reporting and feedback procedures to choosing a new method of assessment that would allow us to move beyond pre- and post-tests.

### Project Goals:

- Unify assessment procedures on campus
- Improve current course embedded assessment plans
- Initiate a campus-wide discussion regarding assessment and assessment methods
- Increase faculty buy-in regarding assessment
- Select a new assessment model for the General Education curriculum

Tasks	Timeline	Person(s) responsible	Status
Meet with interim Provost and AVPAA to discuss unification of assessment procedures	August, 2008	Shannon Baker, Chair, General Education Committee	Meeting took place (see Progress report for further details)
Analyze current course embedded assessment plans; provide feedback to those faculty members	August, 2008	Shannon Baker, Kathleen Rees, Gregory Moehring (Committee members)	Did not occur due to a reprioritizing of goals following meeting with Provost
Invite assessment expert to campus to address faculty	January, 2009	Dann Brown, Dean, University College	Susan Hatfield addressed

			faculty at January faculty meeting and in a well attended faculty forum.
Organize faculty forums to discuss assessment and specific assessment models (course embedded assessment versus random sampling)	Spring, 2009	Gregory Moehring (Interim Chair), Shannon Baker, Alan Tipton (Office of Institutional Research) and General Education Committee	Forums are planned and underway
Create blog to facilitate discussion of assessment throughout the semester	Spring, 2009	Allan Ketcham, Committee member	Blog still needs to be created
Host General Education Teaching reception, present first General Education Teaching Award. This, paired with discussions, will help reduce hostility regarding assessment	Spring, 2009	Jacki Thomas, Chair of the Center for Teaching Effectiveness, and General Education Committee	Will occur after Spring Break
Select new assessment model	Spring, 2009	General Education Committee	Should occur after the forums and committee discussions late in Spring

**assessment documents**  
Summer Retreat 08: NMHEAA

## Progress Report Template

Date: January 27, 2009	Team: Texas A&M University—Kingsville (TAMUK)	Participants(s): General Education Committee; Shannon Baker, Chair; Duane Gardiner, AVPAA; Dann Brown, Dean, University College; Ronn Hy, Interim Provost; Sonny Davis, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Alan Tipton, Office of Institutional Research
project	<p>Description of Project: TAMUK set out to improve assessment procedures for the General Education curriculum, including everything from streamlining the reporting and feedback procedures to choosing a new method of assessment that would allow us to move beyond pre- and post-tests. To accomplish these goals we hoped to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• create a more logical flow of assessment results and feedback across campus</li> <li>• improve the current course embedded plans that we are using as a pilot project</li> <li>• Initiate a campus-wide discussion regarding assessment and assessment methods</li> <li>• Increase faculty buy-in regarding assessment</li> <li>• Select a new assessment model for the General Education curriculum</li> </ul>	
results & data	<p>Some of our goals were delayed because of the many changes in administration that TAMUK has experienced in the last year. For example, we could not pursue the goal of streamlining the flow of assessment results on campus because of the transition of leadership on the Council for Assessment and Planning (CAP). In addition we got sidetracked from reviewing course embedded assessment plans for a variety of reasons, including the interim Provost's request that the Committee analyze data from Spring 2007, and communicate with departments regarding those results to see what changes they could make to improve compliance and pass rates, where necessary. The Committee launched its campus-wide discussion of assessment and assessment methods in January, with an address by assessment expert Dr. Susan Hatfield. The Committee has also hosted its first of three assessment forums scheduled throughout the Spring semester. Hatfield's visit, combined with these forums, which will allow faculty to voice their opinions regarding assessment, should help to increase faculty buy-in by augmenting faculty members' sense of investment in the process. The General Education Committee will also sponsor a General Education Faculty Appreciation Reception at which it, in</p>	

	<p>conjunction with the Center for Teaching Effectiveness, will present the first General Education Teaching Award. We hope that this indirectly increases faculty buy-in regarding assessment by letting them know that their efforts in the classroom are appreciated.</p>
<p><b>analysis of the data</b></p>	<p>Much of our activity is still underway, making analysis of the results a difficult task. However, it is possible to draw some preliminary conclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We can look forward to a new, and hopefully improved, chain of command regarding assessment results and feedback when a newly appointed assessment expert is in place in Fall, 2009, per the mandate of President Dr. Steven Tallant.</li> <li>• Although we had not included providing feedback regarding the Spring 2007 assessment results, this process did help to improve faculty members' and chairs' attitudes about the assessment process because the Committee implemented a faculty-led procedure that included plenty of room for collegial discussions of the results. Our decentralized approach minimized fears that assessment is a threat.</li> <li>• Hosting the forums throughout the semester will allow the campus community in general and the General Education Committee in particular, to engage in informed and lively discussions about how assessment should function on our campus. This will allow the Committee to make a more informed decision regarding which assessment method that courses within the General Education curriculum will pursue.</li> </ul>
<p><b>action plan</b></p>	<p>As a consequence of our efforts this year, the Committee will be able to begin to transition the General Education curriculum from pre- and post-tests, to our new model in the Fall. This process will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educating faculty members about the selected plan, so that they understand their role in the process</li> <li>• Creating an assessment rotation, so that the University is not collecting data regarding the entire Gen. Ed. Curriculum each semester</li> <li>• Creating a web site with information for the campus community to help faculty members implement the new plan</li> <li>• Determining where General Education assessment will fit once an assessment expert is hired, and assuring that the administration remains committed to strong faculty involvement in the</li> </ul>

	leadership of this process.
<b>comments</b>	

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