

**Senate University Assessment Committee
Annual Report for
Academic Year 2020-2021**

The Senate University Assessment Committee (UAC) provides faculty guidance and oversight to the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost in developing and implementing the University Assessment Plan. In addition, the committee analyzes and interprets assessment results, generates appropriate reports, and disseminates assessment results to the Office of Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost, the University Senate, and the community.

The University Assessment Committee was able to accomplish the tasks and responsibilities charged to it by the University Senate, in part due to the support provided by the Director of Assessment and Accreditation, Dr. Tim Burrows. The Committee is appreciative of the support and expertise provided by Dr. Burrows.

The Committee wishes to thank the Office of University Analytics and Planning and the University community for their assessment efforts. Every contribution is vital to the assessment process at the University of North Dakota. The Senate University Assessment Committee for the 2020-2021 academic year was co-chaired by Amber Johnson (CNPD) and Deborah Worley (CEHD). Committee members for the 2020-2021 year included:

Frank Bowman (CEM)
Tim Burrows (Director of Assessment and Accreditation)
Laura Fetzer (student)
Sherrie Fleshman (A&S)
Lydia Kennelly (student)
Soizik Laguette (JDO)
Laura Look (Graduate Studies Designee)
Amber Johnson (Nursing & Professional Disciplines)
Amanda Moske (University Analytics & Planning)
Seong-Hyun Nam (BPA)
Karyn Plumm (Essential Studies)
Alex Pokornowski (VPSA designee)
Sarah Sletten (MED)
Deborah Worley (EHD)

Functions and Responsibilities of the University Assessment Committee

The University Senate has identified six areas of responsibility for the University Assessment Committee. The responsibilities of the Committee and its accomplishments during the 2020-21 academic year are addressed as follows:

- I. Address all issues regarding the assessment of student achievement and development.
The university began using a new system, Taskstream, in AY2020-21 where academic departments and co-curricular programs upload assessment plans and annual assessment reports. In 2020-21, the University Assessment Committee (UAC) utilized Taskstream to review assessment plans and annual assessment reports for the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Law. The UAC also reviewed co-curricular units, including Career Services, the Chester Fritz Library, Wellness & Health, International Programs, Student Involvement, and Parent Programs. The UAC provided feedback on student learning outcomes, assessment measures, reported results, and opportunities for closing the assessment loop on the reviewed reports. The feedback was compiled in Taskstream and emailed to department chairs and unit directors.

- II. Develop, review, and evaluate the University Assessment Plan in conjunction with the Assessment Director.
This document is to be reviewed every other year and was reviewed in fall 2019. The plan should be reviewed again in fall 2021. The most recent version of the University Assessment Plan is available at: <https://campus.und.edu/assessment-accreditation/files/docs/univ-asmt-plan-2019-final2.pdf>

- III. Oversee the implementation of the University Assessment Plan, evaluate assessment activities and the interpretation of assessment results, and evaluate the overall effectiveness of the Plan.
As previously indicated, in 2020-21 the UAC reviewed the assessment results and findings from programs in the College of Arts & Sciences and the School of Law. The committee reviewed assessment documents for 29 graduate programs, 40 undergraduate programs, and 27 certificate programs. Five non-academic units were reviewed during this same time period.

The Assessment Director and the UAC continue to provide guidance to departments as they develop, implement, and make use of their assessment plans. Collectively, the reviews help determine the state of assessment for the University. Departments and programs have specific plans for assessment in place, and there are many programs where student learning goals are well-articulated in those assessment plans. Moreover, appropriate methods of assessment are implemented, though there were some instances where a single method of assessment predominates. Furthermore, the committee reviewed several programs where assessment methods need further description. A small number of programs did not provide any results of assessment activities or evidence of actions taken on the basis of assessment results.

- IV. Make recommendations regarding how to address any deficiencies that are revealed by assessment activities.
The UAC continues to make good progress in supporting academic departments and co-curricular units when submitting their annual assessment reports. Implementing Taskstream is particularly helpful in this regard. Also, the UAC continues to improve the process of providing effective and efficient feedback to academic departments and co-curricular units in a timely manner. This process is now automated by Taskstream.

- V. Review University Accreditation Report when issued and advise the Senate regarding the Report and its implications.

The Assessment Committee continues to support institutional efforts related to accreditation and results from our review of assessment materials will be used in UND's next assurance argument to be written for HLC re-accreditation.

- VI. Provide guidance to the Assessment Director in order to keep the assessment website current.

The assessment website is kept current by the Director of Assessment and Accreditation. The UAC is available to provide feedback to the Director as needed. For more information, please visit: <https://campus.und.edu/assessment-accreditation/>

Summary: During 2020-2021 the University Assessment Committee fulfilled its purpose, function and responsibilities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Worley and Amber Johnson
University Assessment Committee Co-Chairs
(2020-2021)

September 2, 2021