



Institutional Effectiveness

Assessment Matters

Vol. 1, No. 1 - Fall 2017

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Institutional Effectiveness Newsletter at Buffalo State College. With the retirement of Associate Vice President of Curriculum and Assessment, Dr. Roz Lindner after 43 years of dedicated service to Buffalo State, the Provost has reorganized the duties of her office to better align with our operational needs. Curriculum oversight and liaison duties with SUNY and NYSED were placed in the Associate Provost's office with Dr. Amitra Wall, while assessment, compliance, and accreditation have been placed in Institutional Effectiveness, led by Dr. Brad Fuster.

Institutional Effectiveness is a relatively new term at Buffalo State, but has been used throughout higher education for many years. Institutional Effectiveness represents a shift from the more traditional "Assessment" office, which was mainly concerned with Student Learning Outcomes-based assessment, to a more campus-wide approach that continues to include Student Learning Outcomes assessments, and also includes the assessment of Support Outcomes for non-academic units across all areas of Buffalo State as well as Strategic Planning.

Buffalo State's shift from "assessment" to "institutional effectiveness" also mirrors a broad revision in the Middle States standards that became effective in Fall 2017, by which institutions now must evidence institutional effectiveness in all operational areas. To better understand the revised Middle States standards, please visit,

<http://www.msche.org/publications/RevisedStandardsFINAL.pdf>

People working in Institutional Effectiveness include;

Brad Fuster. Dr. Fuster joined Buffalo State in 2005 and served as a Professor of Music and Music Department Chair, as well as in a number of key interim leadership roles before joining Institutional Effectiveness in 2017.

KimMarie Markel . Ms. Markel serves as a Staff Associate. Ms. Markel served as professional staff support for 16 years in the Assessment and Curriculum office and continues her role in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness as well as curriculum support for Academic Affairs.

Tiffany Fuzak. Please welcome Ms. Fuzak who joined the Office of Institutional Effectiveness in September (2017) as a Research Analyst. Ms. Fuzak comes to us following a long and decorated career at Canisius College.

Jean Salisbury. Ms. Salisbury joined the staff at Buffalo State in 1999 after working at SUNY Oswego. She provides day-to-day support for Institutional Effectiveness.

D. Scott Spencer. Mr. Spencer began as a Graduate Assistant with the Office of Institutional Research, and transitioned to a part-time staff member in December 2014. Mr. Spencer supports both the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and the Teacher Education Unit with data collection

Check out our new website!

<http://institutionaleffectiveness.buffalostate.edu>

Institutional Effectiveness Committee

The work of the Institutional Effectiveness Office is guided by broad participation from the Institutional Effectiveness Committee. The committee's charge from the Provost is as follows;

"The work of the IEC will endeavor to measure and make public the degree to which our institutional performance and behavior satisfies Buffalo State's mission. This work will be accomplished by IEC members who represent stakeholders in all institutional areas. The overarching charge of the IEC is to continuously assess and improve programs and services that enable Buffalo State to respond effectively to opportunities and challenges (MSCHE Standard VI). The IEC will be further deployed to work on specific accreditation processes and actions, as needed."

IEC Membership

Brad Fuster, Associate Vice President, Institutional Effectiveness
 Erin Alonzo, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management
 Judi Basinski, Associate Vice President, RITE Enterprise Data and Analytics / Institutional Research
 Scott Burns, Associate Vice President, Institutional Advancement
 Brian Dubenion, Interim Director, Student Life / Student Affairs
 Tiffany Fuzak, Research Analyst, Institutional Effectiveness
 Yves Gachette, Director, Institutional Research
 Jon Hulbert, Director, Leadership and Organizational Development
 Melaine Kenyon, Director, Technology Support Services/Creative Media Services
 Lisa Krieger, Assistant Vice President, Finance and Management
 Jessie Lombardo, Associate Director, Career Development Center
 KimMarie Markel, Staff Associate, Institutional Effectiveness
 Amitra Wall, Associate Provost, Academic Affairs
 Student (TBA)



NEWS



**Assessment Network
of New York**

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 18 – 20, 2018
 Embassy Suites by Hilton
 Syracuse, NY

Assessment Network of New York

<http://assessmentnetworkny.org/>

Keynote Speakers

Tom Angelo - Clinical Professor of Educational Innovation and Research, University of North Carolina, Eshelman School of Pharmacy

Robert W. Aaron - Executive Director of Student Affairs Assessment & Planning, Northwestern University

W. Allen Richman - Senior Director for Research, Middle States Commission on Higher Education



**MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION
ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

[Special Edition Newsletter - msche.org](http://msche.org), - **November 2017**

Update on Renewal of the Accreditation Model Here is the most recent news related to the renewal of the Middle States accreditation model— Standards, cycle, processes. Implementation of all the changes is proceeding smoothly and on schedule. Town Hall Presentation Slides

We've Been Busy!

Throughout the Fall 2017 semester, the newly formed Institutional Effectiveness office began working with over 70 non-academic units to develop Unit Mission Statements, Support Outcomes, and Assessment Plans. This was accomplished through a series of six professional development sessions that were facilitated with generous support from our colleagues Brian Dubenion, Tiffany Fuzak, Jon Hulbert, Melaine Kenyon, Kimberly Kline, Lisa Krieger, Heather Maldonado, Meghan Pereira and Kim VanDerLinden.



Taskstream Accountability Management System (AMS) is the software program we will use to house and track all of the assessment data for the non-academic units. Starting in Spring 2018, Academic Department Chairs will also be able to put their annual reports in Taskstream, house important department data, and track progress toward goals. We also plan to use Taskstream to measure key performance indicators in Buffalo State's Strategic Plan as well as the many subordinate strategic plans in the VP's, Deans, President's Council for Equity and Diversity, E. H. Butler Library, etc. Taskstream training is available on campus beginning in Spring 2018. For more on the software, please visit <https://www1.taskstream.com>

For immediate Taskstream questions, Tiffany Fuzak can be reached at FUZAKTD@BUFFALOSTATE.EDU or at 716-878-4132

Intellectual Foundations General Education Assessment areas scheduled for review in Spring 2018 are:

- ◆ Quantitative Reasoning (Jane Cushman, OAC Chair),
- ◆ Information Management (Barbara Sherman, OAC Chair),
- ◆ Writing (Maggie Herb, OAC Chair)
- ◆ Critical Thinking (John Draeger, OAC Chair).

After consulting with SIFOC, and the OAC's and Associate Deans, it was decided that Quantitative Reasoning, Information Management, and Critical Thinking would be simultaneously assessed. This decision was driven by the fact that these three represent all of the IF Infused Competencies and there are great number of courses that have successfully infused all three in the same course. Approaching the assessment of the infused competencies as a group, rather than individually is a tall task that will require a great deal of work by the three OACs, but once it is completed, we hope to realize more actionable SLO data. We will all also enjoy not having to assess many of the same exact courses year-after-year if the infused competencies were individually assessed.

Buffalo State Represented: On Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 14 Faculty, Staff, and Administrators from Buffalo State attended The SUNY Council on Assessment (SCOA) Fall Regional Drive-In Event hosted by University at Buffalo. The Keynote was delivered by Deborah Moeckel, SUNY Assistant Provost for Assessment. The day included useful information about how to map Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), to Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs), to Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs). Maps overlaying sample general education curricula to SUNY, NYSED, and Middle States requirements were also presented.

Assessment Resources

The Toolbox, *The Toolbox* is an online professional development newsletter offering innovative, learner-centered strategies

for empowering college students to achieve greater success. The newsletter is published six times a year by the National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina. The online subscription is free. To register for newsletter alerts and access back issues, please visit <http://www.sc.edu/fye/toolbox/>

ASSESSMENT COMMONS

"Internet Resources for Higher Education Outcomes Assessment"

<http://assessmentcommons.org/>

An open learning space that curates content for faculty and assessment professionals through housed resources and tools for student learning outcomes, teaching and learning, program review and accreditation.

Visit the Association for Assessment of Higher Education, Inc at

<http://aalhe.org>

