Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC)

Academic Programs

Step 1: Performance Outcome

Faculty, staff, and administrators who participate in WAC professional development programs apply WAC best practices to their academic work.

Step 2: Methods and Measures

Method: Offer WAC workshops and "Lunch and Learns" to support faculty, staff, and administrator efforts to incorporate writing into classes and to improve writing.

Measures: Survey participants immediately after the professional development experience and again at the end of the academic year.

Step 3: Criteria for Success

- 75% of faculty, staff, and administrators who participate in WAC professional development programs rate the programs as "effective" or "very effective."
- 75% of faculty, staff, and administrators who participate in WAC professional development programs rate the programs as "useful" or "very useful."
- 75% of faculty, staff, and administrators who participate in WAC professional development programs apply WAC best practices to their work.

Step 4: Results

Post-workshop Survey: Data was collected on ten of the fourteen WAC workshops that were offered in AY 2017-18. Participants were asked to rate the "usefulness" and "effectiveness" of the workshop on a four-point scale. Qualitative questions were included in the surveys to analyze trends in attendees' responses that might guide future WAC developments. In all, 43 of 69 participants (62%) responded to post-workshop surveys. Post-workshop surveys indicated that 100% of respondents found WAC workshops either "useful" or "very useful," and 100% found the workshops "effective" or "very effective" (N = 43, or 62% of workshop participants, for both questions).

Post-AY surveys: A final, online, post-academic-year question was administered to all workshop participants; "*Have you incorporated any of the practices, strategies, or ideas you learned at a Writing Across the Curriculum workshop into any of your classes or other workplace tasks (e.g., teaching, writing, prompts, assignments, etc.)?" Response choices included; "yes", "no", or "other". If "other" was selected, respondents could include additional information related to their response. In all, 32 of 69 participants (46%) responded to the online survey. Results indicated that 100% of survey-responding workshop participants had applied WAC practices to their work (N = 32, or 46% of workshop participants).*

Results from both instruments well exceeded the established criteria for success, so the outcome was 'met'.

Step 5: Improvement Actions

The assessment result indicates that both scores exceeded the target score of 75/100. No improvement actions will be taken. This SLO will be reassessed in 2018-2019. Overall results were positive, however, a few areas for improvement were noted during the assessment process. Qualitative data indicated that the program should improve promotion of workshops, and increase the frequency of workshops with varied times-frames. Action to be taken includes distributing WAC workshop flyers more widely, announcement of WAC activities via email through StratComm, FDC, and the Provost's Office. Workshops will also be announced on the WAC webpage.

Lastly, the Program will improve the consistency of its post-workshop survey content and process to obtain more aggregate data.