

## Assessment Committee Annual Report

**Committee Members:** Renu Pariyadeth (FACS); Shannon Polchow (LLC); Kenneth Barideaux Jr. (PSY); Wei Zhong (MCS); Chung-Yean Chiang (JCBE); Sharon Smith (SON); Sharda Jackson-Smith (EHPH); Richmond Adebaye (INFO)

Committee Chair: Kenneth Barideaux Jr.  
Incoming Committee Chair: Sharon Smith

Ex-Officio: Kim Purdy (Dean of University College); Amanda Karls (Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Compliance); Pam Steinke (Vice Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs); Bennie Harris (Chancellor)

**Committee Meeting Dates:** The assessment committee met a total of three times during the 2021 – 2022 academic year. The virtual meetings were held on the following dates:

September 9, 2021, at 4 pm  
November 22, 2021, at 11:30 am  
April 21, 2022, at 10 am

**Committee Actions and Accomplishments:** For the 2021 – 2022 academic year, Faculty Assessment Coordinators were required to submit their individual program's Continuous Improvement Blueprint (CIB) by October 1, 2021, instead of the usual October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Although in the previous year the deadline was extended to November 1<sup>st</sup> due to the circumstances surrounding the pandemic, a decision was made to keep the usual October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline because of the upcoming SACSCOC site visit.

The Assessment Committee received reports from 36 of 37 programs that were expected to submit reports. This is a 97% response rate, which is slightly up from last year's response rate. In addition, this was the highest response rate since the 2016 – 2017 academic year.

During Spring and Summer of 2021, program data sheets were emailed to program chairs and assessment coordinators. The data sheets were specific to each program but aligned with the college/school scorecards. They included the following information: enrollment, retention in major, retention in the institution, graduation rates, NACE competencies, advising, and postgraduate placement rates (graduate school, military, employment). This was the first year that data sheets were integrated into the CIBs. The assessment coordinators were also instructed to reflect on the data provided to them in the data sheets, specifically reflecting on strengths and areas of improvement within the program.

Finally, this was an especially important year for the assessment committee as the university was preparing for the on-site SACSCOC reaffirmation committee visit in March of 2022. The chair of the assessment committee (Kenneth Barideaux Jr) and Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Compliance (Amanda Karls) met with members of the reaffirmation committee during their visit and provided information concerning the USC Upstate's assessment process. Overall, the members were impressed with our assessment procedures, and we were found in compliance with Standard 8.2a--the institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it

achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of the results in student learning outcomes for each of its educational programs.

The Assessment Committee would not have accomplished these actions without the help and support of Pam Steinke, Kimberly Walker, and Amanda Karls. Thank you all!

**2021 – 2022 Assessment Report Submissions:**

| <b>Academic Program</b>                  | <b>Submitted</b> |
|--|------------------|
| Art Studio/Graphic Design                | Yes              |
| Biology                                  | Yes              |
| Business                                 | Yes              |
| Business-Graduate Business Analytics     | No               |
| Chemistry                                | Yes              |
| Commercial Music                         | Yes              |
| Communications                           | Yes              |
| Community Health                         | Yes              |
| Computer Science/ Computer Info. Systems | Yes              |
| Criminal Justice                         | Yes              |
| Education-Art                            | Yes              |
| Education-CDFS                           | Yes              |
| Education-Early Childhood                | Yes              |
| Education-Elementary                     | Yes              |
| Education-Learning Disabilities          | Yes              |
| Education-Middle Grades                  | Yes              |
| Education-Physical Ed.                   | Yes              |
| Education-Exercise and Sports Science    | Yes              |
| Education-Secondary                      | Yes              |
| Education-Graduate Applied Learning      | Yes              |
| Education-Graduate ECE/Elem.             | Yes              |
| Education-Graduate VI                    | Yes              |
| Engineering Technology Mgmt.             | Yes              |
| English                                  | Yes              |
| History                                  | Yes              |
| Informatics                              | Yes              |
| Informatics-Graduate                     | Yes              |
| Healthcare Information Mgmt.             | Yes              |
| Interdisciplinary Studies                | Yes              |
| Mathematics                              | Yes              |
| Nursing                                  | Yes              |
| Nursing-Graduate                         | Yes              |
| Political Science                        | Yes              |

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Psychology | Yes |
| Sociology  | Yes |
| Spanish    | Yes |
| Theater    | Yes |