Applying the Lessons of Curriculum Mapping to Courses and Degree Programs: Assessment Principles for Improved Teaching and Learning

with Michael Heel, Assistant Director of Curriculum and Assessment at Monroe Community College.

Assessment over the past decade has primarily been about satisfying accountability standards. The result has been that most colleges and universities actively engaged in assessment now have a well-developed system of data collection oriented around assessment, but project results gathered through assessment remain largely outside of the curriculum, and fail to appear useful or relevant to faculty. In short, Assessment for ‘Them’ just hasn’t proven to work for most higher education institutions.

Current practice suggests that those institutions less concerned with accountability and more focused on student learning and improvement are finding assessment practical and useful. That is, improvements in teaching, learning, and curriculum are more likely found among those institutions in higher education where the faculty and administrative leadership have developed a system of “Assessment for ‘Us.’”

In this forum, with Michael Heel, Assistant Director of Curriculum and Assessment at Monroe Community College, attendees can expect to learn about strategies to integrate assessment and curriculum design that expresses faculty’s aspirations for their students, and that promotes a focus of continuous improvement in teaching, learning, and curriculum design. Specific subjects covered will include an overview of principles of assessment and curriculum design, the effective writing of course-level objectives and outcomes, and the creation of effective curriculum maps in a variety of contexts. A combination of techniques, including seminar-style delivery of information, the use of case study materials, and hands-on workshop methods, will engage participants in a process of understanding how assessment can be a reflection of what faculty are already doing in their departments and in the classroom.

When: Thursday, January 30th from 12-4pm
Where: A-212 (Tapestry Room)

For a copy of workshop materials, please click here: