



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

ASSESSMENT BRIEF

www.ramapo.edu/administration/assessment

FALL 2010

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

Academic assessment is key to creating an institutional culture of investigation and reflection aimed at improving student learning.



SUCCESS

This fall Ramapo College launched a new campus-wide assessment process. With programs submitting assessment plans in October, the College is well on its way to meeting the expectations of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education while demonstrating internally its commitment to student learning.

Highlights from this year's assessment plans:

- The most popular learning outcomes: writing, critical thinking, information literacy, and research skills.
- The most popular assessment technique: application of a rubric to a student essay or other student work.
- The most innovative curriculum maps: inclusion of relevant assignments in addition to outcomes, courses, and levels.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Faculty Resource Center (FRC) provides workshops, teaching circles, and other support for assessment-related activities. *Mark your calendars:*

December 1st, 2010: "Developing Effective and Engaging Essay Questions," presented by Lysandra Perez-Strumolo. During this roundtable discussion, participants will discuss the development of essay questions that aim at engaging and promoting critical thinking. Participants will also discuss the process of linking essays with learning goals and the use of rubrics for simplifying grading of essays.

December 14, 2010: Faculty Development Workshop on direct assessment, rubrics, inter-rater reliability, and other topics. Stay tuned for the announcement from the FRC.

Spring 2011: The Faculty Learning Community may read Peggy Maki's *Assessing for Learning* in the spring. This fall the Faculty Learning Community read Mary Allen's *Assessing Academic Programs in Higher Education*.

To receive more details and updates about these FRC programs and to offer ideas for assessment-related workshops that would benefit your convening group, please contact Lysandra Perez-Strumolo, Director of the Faculty Resource Center, at lperezst@ramapo.edu.

RESOURCES

Check out Ramapo's Assessment web site: www.ramapo.edu/administration/assessment. On the resources page, you will find selected:

- Ramapo assessment methods
- Ramapo Rubrics
- Ramapo Learning Outcomes

CAMPUS-WIDE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

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