



**RAMAPO
COLLEGE**
OF NEW JERSEY

ASSESSMENT BRIEF

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

www.ramapo.edu/administration/assessment

FALL 2015

*Improving student learning while PUSHING BOUNDARIES
in the classroom and beyond.*



MIDDLE STATES: THE VERDICT

Earlier this year the College submitted its Periodic Review Report (PRR) to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Peer reviewers “commended” the College “for its significant progress in addressing the recommendations made after the last reaccreditation in 2010, especially with respect to assessment.” In turn, the College submitted an institutional response, detailing current and future plans to enhance assessment and other processes. In November, the Commission accepted the College’s Periodic Review Report (PRR), reaffirmed accreditation, and “recognize[d]” the College “for progress to date.”

WHAT’S NEW?

In response to recommendations from the peer reviewers of our Middle States PRR, CWAC has joined the School Assessment Committees to advance two enhancements to our assessment processes:

- o Publish outcomes and curriculum maps for all programs on the College’s website. Doing so enables current and prospective students to understand what we want them to know and be able to do.
- o Reassess outcomes to determine if past interventions had the desired effects. Doing so enables us to understand if, thanks to the actions we’ve taken, student learning has improved.

CLOSING THE LOOP

The most important part of any assessment process is closing the loop. Since its inception, Ramapo’s all-college assessment program has promoted loop-closing as vital to the continuous improvement of teaching and learning. In an effort to enhance our loop-closing strategies, CWAC and the School Assessment Committees will ask all academic programs, starting with the spring 2016 assessment report:

- o To indicate if an outcome assessed this year was assessed in the past
- o To document if actions planned in response to a past assessment were actually taken
- o To compare past with current assessment results
- o To consider whether past actions had the desired effect and if any enhancements are warranted

In the spring, Jackie Skrzynski and Gladys Torres-Baumgarten will lead a workshop on this topic, entitled “What Would Confucius Say about Assessment? – A Practical Approach.” Bring your assessment challenges to encourage discussion.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Last year the General Education Curriculum Committee (GECCo) launched a second three-year assessment cycle of Ramapo’s general education curriculum. All of the assessment reports can be found on the GECCo website: <http://www.ramapo.edu/fa/gecco/>. The password is ‘GECCo’ (without quotes).

COLLEGE-WIDE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

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