

General Education Assessment AQIP Charge

Proposed Members:

Zenia Agustin, Director of General Education
Director of Assessment (To be named)
Denise Cobb, Assistant Provost
Joel Hardman, COA Representative
Tom Jordan, General Education Committee Representative
Geoff Schmidt, College of Arts and Sciences
Phil Brown, Institutional Research and Studies
Representative from Student Senate
Laura Swanson, School of Business
Faculty Representative, School of Nursing
Faculty Representative, School of Pharmacy
Faculty Representative, School of Dental Medicine
Faculty Representative, School of Engineering
Faculty Representative, School of Education
Yvonne Mitkos, Director of Instructional Services
Kevin Thomas, Director of Retention

In 2003, SIUE initially embarked on the challenging path of reforming our general education curriculum in order to ensure greater coherence and relevance. Importantly, this process involved faculty in meaningful ways and supported faculty ownership of the plan that emerged, the Lincoln Program. While SIUE has been long recognized as a leader in assessment and our Senior Assignment experiences, we have significant opportunities to apply these same principles of continuous improvement to general education. The original Bridge Committee's Final Report in 2008, which recommended the Lincoln Program, and the 2009 Implementation Plan, reinforce the need for a comprehensive and thoughtful general education assessment plan.

In response to SIUE faculty's call for the development of a systematic, integrated approach to assessment of general education, the Office of the Provost and Faculty Senate have initiated an AQIP Action Project to form a General Education Assessment Committee that will strategically develop a comprehensive plan for understanding how our students are meeting the student learning goals and outcomes set forth in the Lincoln Program. This effort will be undertaken with the central goal of collecting, analyzing, and using student learning outcomes data to facilitate improvement of student learning. As we are poised to develop a comprehensive assessment plan for SIUE that reflects our institutional identity, commitment to excellence, and awareness of best practices in the field, the committee will undertake the process of developing an assessment plan that relies on authentic assessments, to the degree possible, builds on the strengths of SIUE's high impact learning practices, and capitalizes pedagogies, course offerings, and data already collected. The plan should build upon and engage faculty and students in an open and deliberate culture of assessment and recognize the university's commitment to student learning. The plan should meet the needs of key stakeholder groups and fulfill our commitments for accountability and improvement.

Charge:

Reporting to the Provost and the Faculty Senate, the General Education Assessment Committee will

- 1) review institutional processes that yield data related to general education assessment (NSSE data, Alumni surveys, SRA data, IS Courses, NFS Courses) to develop a plan for how to better utilize these data;
- 2) articulate clear and measurable learning outcomes associated with the objectives for the baccalaureate degree at SIUE;
- 3) develop a comprehensive plan for assessment of general education at SIUE with authentic assessment as the center piece of a plan that builds on SIUE's strengths and reflects best practices in the field;
- 4) explore opportunities to establish mechanisms to involve students, faculty, and other stakeholders, in the assessment process in more formal and systematic ways;
- 5) establish procedures for continuous review of the general education assessment plan and use of the general education data for the purpose of curricular improvement; and
- 6) openly document the progress and goals of the committee.