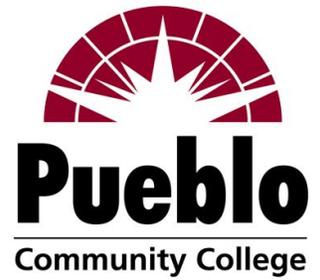




ASSESSMENT NEWS & TIPS



PCC Assessment of Student Learning Newsletter

April 2017

Assessment Showcase—Share Your Accomplishments!

Don't forget: *each department* is asked to share at least one recent assessment project of any kind to be featured at our first annual Assessment Showcase Celebration this fall! Fill out the quick and easy [Submission Form](#) and send it in ASAP—in order to be designed and printed in time, posters must be submitted **before we leave for summer**, if not sooner!

HLC Conference Highlights

A group of faculty had the opportunity to attend the 2017 Higher Learning Commission National Conference this past weekend, which proved to be a highly informative and inspirational experience—here were some of the highlights!

Institution Showcase: A Sustainable Culture of Assessment ([link to full PPT](#))

Out of all the institutions they work with, **eLumen picked us** to be their Showcase Institution at this year's conference! Liz Medendorp and Shanna Montoya shared [PCC's Assessment Journey](#), summarizing where we began, what we are doing, and where we are going. The presentation was well received, forging connections with fellow institutions across the country and inspiring collaboration within the Colorado Community College System.

Key Takeaways: We're Ahead of the Curve!

The conference attendees learned a great deal about fostering a positive culture of student learning, communicating clearly with a variety of stakeholders, and creating a sustainable framework for assessment. Most of all, we learned that despite the obstacles we face, **PCC is a frontrunner** in the field of assessment—in just a short amount of time, the work we have accomplished has put us **on the cutting edge!**

Excellence in Assessment Designation

We have an opportunity to receive nationwide recognition through the well-respected National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) [Excellence in Assessment Designation](#), which identifies leaders in the field as valuable models for colleges across the country. PCC is a perfect fit for this award, and the Assessment Committee welcomes your input and contributions as we draft our application (due 4/14)—please share your current projects and recent collaborations with colleagues, students, and community partners!

Completing Spring 2017 Assessment

Once your PSLOs are entered into eLumen and mapped to our ISLOs, all that remains is to decide who will assess what this semester—and with which rubrics:

Requirements: Full-time faculty are expected to assess *at least one* student learning outcome in one course this semester and enter scores into eLumen **by the grading deadline** (5/15).

Program-level rubrics can be used this semester IF they are built in alignment with our institutional rubric scale and ready by mid-April (come to the [Rubric Workshop](#) on 4/14 for help on this!)

Institution-level rubrics will be used to assess this semester if program-level rubrics are not ready—in this case, reassessing *at least* the same ISLO(s) as you did in fall is recommended.

Discuss your options and preferences for completing this semester's assessment with your fellow faculty and especially with your Department Chair, who will then distribute rubrics, whether program- or institution-level, in eLumen for you to complete this semester.

Upcoming Events & Opportunities for Involvement

- [Program-level Rubric Workshop](#): 10:00-2:00 on 4/14 (CA 205)—drop in any time for hands-on help developing PSLO rubrics that can be used **right away** this semester!
- Every M/W 1-3 **eLumen/Assessment Office Hours** (AB 250W)
- Next ISLO Rubric Meeting: Textual Literacy (4/10 4:00-5:00—RSVP to Liz!)

“Building intentionally integrated, layered systems that rest on the foundational work of faculty in the classroom, campuses are able to provide deep and rich evidence of students’ knowledge, skills, and abilities.”

~NILOA, 2017

April's Best Practice

Assessment done well is integrated throughout the work of many campus faculty and staff, and those efforts should be rewarded and celebrated.

National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment

eLumen Feature: Results Explorer

In the Results Explorer dashboard, faculty can view aggregate results for individual assessments/rubrics, tabulated in customizable tables and visualized in colorful graphs, allowing you to explore and easily analyze trends in your own students' learning and performance over time.

Terminology Tip

“Performance Descriptor”

In assessment rubrics, “performance descriptors” use clear, objective language to describe learning outcomes as observable, measurable, and specific behaviors, illustrating what a student knows or can do at each level of mastery.

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