

# Fall 2022 Assessment News Brief

The New MC Assessment Handbook is now Online!  
*(see page 3 for details)*



## Themes from the 2021-22 College Area Review Reports

### Themes from CAR Reports

- Increase course scheduling offerings
- Increase program enrollment
- Create opportunities for cross discipline collaboration
- (Indirect) – Obtain assistance with marketing programs to increase program enrollment

The themes from the College Area Review recommendations are not surprising given the current state of enrollment at the college. In addition, two programs developed recommendations related to interacting with other disciplines because of the cross-discipline nature of their fields.

## Themes from 2021-22 Learning Outcomes Assessment Reports

Out of the reports received, only one report developed planned actions to improve student learning, with the remaining continuing as usual. This suggests a need to work more closely with programs and disciplines to use the assessment process as a tool to improve student learning.

## Reminder of 2022-23 Assessment Activities

As we approach 2023, a quick reminder that CAR Reports and Year-3 Integrated Reports will be due next Fall semester by October 1, 2023.

Disciplines scheduled to submit their College Area Review (CAR) Reports for 2022-2023:

- Accounting
- Business Admin
- Computer Apps
- Comp. Gaming & Sim
- Computer Science
- Cybersecurity
- Economics
- Engineering Sci.
- Ethnic Social Studies
- History
- Hospitality
- International Studies
- Learning Communities
- Macklin Business Inst.
- Management
- Network/Wireless Sec.
- Nutrition
- Paralegal Studies
- Political Science

Disciplines scheduled to submit their Year-3 Integrated Assessment Reports for 2022-2023:

- Anthropology
- Criminal Justice
- Education
- Gen Ed Program
- Gen Studies Program
- Music
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Women's Studies

\*\*All other disciplines/programs should provide their Annual Update Reports on data collection and other assessment activities by August 1, 2023.

# Fall 2022 Assessment News Brief

## Assessment Workshops for Fall 2022!

### 1. Workshops for Disciplines/Programs/Areas Completing their CAR Reports for 2022-2023

A Zoom workshop will be offered this Fall with information about utilizing information and data for the CAR report. This workshop is intended to assist anyone currently working on their College Area Review report or those planning for their report in the near future.

\*\*Interested in a specific CAR workshop for your area? Please contact the Office of Assessment to set up a date and time.

Date/Time	Topic	Link
Wednesday, November 9 3:00 – 4:00 pm	<b><i>Making Sense of CAR Information and Data (with Dr. Cassandra Jones)</i></b>  <i>*Special Guest: Scott Poese, Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness</i>	<a href="https://montgomerycollege.zoom.us/j/91709010172?pwd=QnpqbHdmczRoQ1BKMy9tTHR0eWd5UT09">https://montgomerycollege.zoom.us/j/91709010172?pwd=QnpqbHdmczRoQ1BKMy9tTHR0eWd5UT09</a>

### 2. The Following Workshops/ Office hours are Open to all Disciplines/Programs/Areas

Date/Time	Topic	Link
Mondays 2:00pm – 3:00 pm	<b><i>Virtual Assessment Office Hours via Zoom (with Debbie Grubb)</i></b>	<a href="https://montgomerycollege.zoom.us/meeting/tJcudOCopjwuGtFchSqPwiAfGb2JaByXIYV5/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCrrTgjGtyStBmCRowqA4jCXfTxIGZbjbd7nxfWEhBEayLwEeAQGLNdCeDc">https://montgomerycollege.zoom.us/meeting/tJcudOCopjwuGtFchSqPwiAfGb2JaByXIYV5/ics?icsToken=98tyKuCrrTgjGtyStBmCRowqA4jCXfTxIGZbjbd7nxfWEhBEayLwEeAQGLNdCeDc</a>
Tuesday, November 8 3:00 – 4:00 pm	<b><i>Question/Answer Session for the Year-3 Integrated Report (with Debbie Grubb)</i></b>	<a href="https://montgomerycollege.zoom.us/j/93790534695?pwd=Nncyb055ZEZMdFd6UXdxSVBuZm9sUT09">https://montgomerycollege.zoom.us/j/93790534695?pwd=Nncyb055ZEZMdFd6UXdxSVBuZm9sUT09</a>

# Fall 2022 Assessment News Brief

## Assessment News



### New Assessment Resource Program (ARP) Launched!

The Office of Assessment would like to welcome **Professor Joanne Carl and Professor Darren Smith as Assessment Resource Persons (ARPs)**. Professor Carl and Professor Smith currently serve on the Collegewide Assessment Team and Professor Carl is the current Assessment Fellow.

ARPs will act as an additional point of contact for questions, assistance, and other related assessment guidance starting in the Fall 2022. ARPS may be assigned to specific disciplines or programs on an ongoing basis (as needed) to provide guidance for completing assessment reports and other activities. Once assigned, ARPs will reach out to any disciplines with contact information and any office hours for assistance.

\*Interested in being an ARP? Please contact Dr. Cassandra Jones or Debbie Grubb at the Office of Assessment for more information.

### New Assessment Software

The Office of Assessment will soon be launching **new assessment software that will replace the previous Tk20 system**. This eLumen software will allow for uploading of data and scoring of assignments directly in the system. This system will not replace the Assessment Repository in Blackboard (this will remain in place) but will work in conjunction with the Repository and other Blackboard sites. *More information to come soon...*

### Assessment Year in Review



In June, Dr. Cassandra Jones and Debbie Grubb presented at the **2022 Annual Conference for the Association for Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE)** in Providence, RI. The presentation reflected the new MC assessment cycle, Assessment Repository, and related changes. More than 60 people from 40 colleges and universities attended the presentation and participated in the discussion.

### The New Assessment Handbook is now available online!

The handbook can be accessed **on the main menu of the Assessment Repository or via the Office of Assessment/Learning Outcomes webpage in a temporary PDF format**. A new, more user-friendly version is currently being created by IT and will occupy its own page on the Office of Assessment site in the near future.

### New Assessment Office Hours

**Debbie Grubb will begin holding virtual assessment office hours on October 24, 2022, via Zoom on Mondays from 2:00-3:00 pm**. These office hours are open to anyone with assessment questions that can be ideally answered in 15 minutes or less. The link to access the office hours is listed in the "Workshops" section on page 2.

If you have questions that are more in depth, please contact Cassandra or Debbie to set up a customized meeting.

## What's it Like to be an Assessment Faculty Fellow/Assessment Committee Member?

### *An Interview with Professor Joanne Carl*

*Joanne is currently the Coordinator for Television/Radio, a CAT member, a CCC member, the current Assessment Fellow, and one of the new Assessment Resource Persons (ARP)*

#### **Can you explain your position at MC and how your involvement in assessment work started?**

*I have been a full-time faculty member at MC for twenty years and very early on I was asked to be part of the Rockville Council, which gave faculty a voice in Governance. I was immediately hooked on the college-wide thing. When I'm working for an organization, I really want to know how that organization works. I don't come from a teaching background. So, as I worked to update my program curriculum, I learned from the outcome specialist that learning outcomes should be measurable and student focused. Cassandra Jones made me realize that assessment is a really important tool that the college can use for improvement. So, I learned from her and immediately said, 'I'd like to be part of that committee.'*

#### **How do you feel about being someone who assists faculty with assessment or other outcome-related activities?**

*I can't tell you how much it helps to have someone that can guide you. Angela Lanier just walked me through so many things. I was working on assessment and outcome-related things, but I had no idea what I was doing, and no one was there to help me. With help from Cassandra and Angie, I learned to understand it; I could communicate it so much better. So, it really helps to have that CAP or Assessment Resource Person (ARP) who can get you through that.*

*As the Assessment Fellow and as a member of CAT, I have been able to find ways to guide other faculty who had the same questions that I had years before. Also, I go to every curriculum committee meeting, as a resource member as the college-wide outcome specialist. I can help people craft outcomes that are measurable, clear & concise, and student focused. And it's really helped, as so many areas are going through curriculum changes. Even if they do small changes - to look at their outcomes and see if they're outdated, they're still looking back and saying, "Wow, those outcomes could use some improvement." So as a collegewide outcome specialist, I've really been able to have an impact on what the students read in the catalog and understand about that program, but also how programs can use the outcomes to gather data and support student success.*

*Cont'd on p.5*

# Fall 2022 Assessment News Brief

## What is it like being an Assessment Fellow?

*Early on when I started as an Assessment Fellow, we were implementing the new assessment cycle. And so the first project I worked on was the creation of a scenario-based video for Gen Ed Assessment Day in October that said, "Here's how to complete the Gen Ed Reflections report." I also worked on another video for the Fall Assessment Retreat that explained what the Collegewide Assessment Team does.*

*Moving on from there, we actually created an assessment handbook, which was a one-year project at least, and made sure that the handbook was focused on examples, and you know, making sure that people had step-by-step instructions, but not a too wordy kind of thing. We also promoted the new cycle. We created a sort of 'Q and A' video called 'Top Ten Questions About the New Assessment Cycle' and answered those questions through a video for the college community.*

*Also, as the Assessment Fellow, I've been able to work with lots of different areas and help and give them information of how to proceed with the reports they have to do, how to proceed with gathering data, and those kinds of things. And now, starting the Assessment Resource Person (ARP) position, we realized that there really needed to be ARPs who had designated time for helping faculty, instead of doing it as just as a member of the Collegewide Assessment Team or another committee.*

## Any final thoughts or comments?

*I have a quick story. I remember a faculty member being in my office and we were talking about updating outcomes, because theirs hadn't been changed in years. That person said, "Why do we have to change these? They're good enough. We have an outside governing body." Well, we worked through it and the two of us came up with great outcomes. The next year, I noticed that the faculty member had joined the curriculum committee because they now understood more about it, like me.*

*When you start to understand the value of this data collection, and how it starts with writing the right outcomes, it begins to make sense. That's how the culture of assessment changes. Some people would say, "Why are we doing assessment? No one's using it, anyway." I can definitely say that now it's being used actively and being referred to across the College. And so that's the change in culture: we're closing the assessment loop by updating outcomes and making improvements that have a real impact on student success!*

Questions for Joanne about working in assessment?

Email: [joanne.carl@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:joanne.carl@montgomerycollege.edu)