



University Assessment Committee Meeting  
Date: Friday, October 28, 2022; Time: 8:30 – 10:00 AM  
Location: Virtual – Microsoft Teams

### Minutes

**Members Present:** Loukia Dixon, Kim DeTardo-Bora, Marty Laubach, Paula Lucas, Brian Hoey, Trish Gallagher, Ralph McKinney, Tim Melvin, Adam Russell, Chris Sochor, Asad Salem, and Mary Beth Reynolds

**Members Absent:** Sarah-Frances Lyon, April Fugett, Andy Hermansdorfer, Larry Sheret

1. Marty Laubach moved approval of the minutes of the May 2, 2022 meeting and his motion was seconded by Paula Lucas. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.
2. HLC Quality Initiative Update: Mary Beth shared the website for the HLC Quality Initiative (<https://www.marshall.edu/hlc-qi/>) with the committee and thanked Tim Melvin, who created and is maintaining this website. She reminded committee members that we are in the first year of our three-year quality initiative, *Building a Stronger and More Inclusive Marshall Community*. The first year's theme is "Complexities of Identity." Most events are being recorded or livestreamed and Tim Melvin is adding links to these recordings (and other material regarding the sessions) to the website as they become available. So far, Dr. Kateryna Schray has completed a series of four Diversity Dinner Groups for new freshmen – Adam Russell noted that there were 76 total attendees for these groups (68 student participants), with roughly 40 attendees per event; Dr. Feon Smith-Branch, Dr. David Cartwright, and Mr. Eugene Lacy are working with five Marshall students who are serving as near-peer mentors to high school HSTA (Health Science and Technology Academy) clubs. We are working with Mr. RaShad Sanders, Executive Director of the Fairfield Community Development Corporation, through a student intern each semester. Dr. Georgiana Logan is mentoring our four Diversity Learning Community scholarship recipients. Dr. April Fugett created the Climate Survey and Mr. Adam Russell is disseminating it to students participating in Quality Initiative events. Mary Beth reminded committee members to visit the quality initiative's website for a list of scholarly readings and to encourage their colleagues to use these in class as appropriate. One-time events that have taken place so far include:
  - Quality Initiative Kick-Off event on Plaza-August 24
  - Quality Initiative Inaugural Lecture – Getting to know Black Huntington-Dr. Cicero Fain in Drinko Atrium-August 30
  - Taco Tuesday – with speakers Dr. Montserrat Miller, Dr. Zeli Rivas, and Dr. Chris White - October 6
  - Listening for *Dia de Los Muertos*: Latinx Music, Migration, and Memory in Appalachia and the South with speaker Dr. Sophia Enriquez – in the MSC Shawkey Room - October 13
  - From Restrictive Covenants to Redlining: An Interdisciplinary Art and Social Sciences Investigation of Housing Practices in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Working Class Huntington, WV and Dayton,

OH – with panelists Cicero Fain, Jacqueline Housel, and Sarah McDermott – at the Visual Arts Center, October 19

- Exploring Neurodiversity within Complex Identities – Panel Moderated by Dr. Jill Underhill – in Drinko 138, October 24

One-time event scheduled:

- Exploring Major Themes presented in Black Huntington: An Appalachian Story – in Drinko 349, with panelists Cicero Fain, Sandra Clements, Lisa Martin, Kyle Warmack, Peyton Levi, and Nico Raffinengo – November 1
- Author of Another Appalachia: Coming up Queer and Indian in a Mountain Place, Neema Avashia will appear virtually on January 19 and in person on April 13. On April 13 she will be the keynote speaker for the COLA Conference luncheon and give a reading for the English Department’s Visiting Writers’ Series in the evening.
- TedX will explore Complexities of Identity as its theme – their presentation is tentative set for Saturday, February 25.

Brian Hoey shared that the Honors 200 Seminar will shortly have an event that will focus on *Complexities of Identity*. In addition to the students in that Honors Cohort, select community members will participate as table hosts.

3. Summer Assessment Team Reports on website <https://www.marshall.edu/assessment/general-education-assessment/> . Mary Beth presented the following results:
  - Baseline to FYS – significant improvement in all traits of Information Literacy and Critical Thinking
  - BDP Outcomes (Intercultural, Ethical & Civic, Communication Fluency) – improvement over time was strongest for *Communication Fluency*. In 300-400 level courses 89% of papers scored at 2.5 or higher, ethical and civic thinking – 60% scored at 2.5 or higher, Intercultural thinking 70% scored at 2.5 or higher.
  - Capstone – control of syntax and mechanics was lowest performing trait. 87% of artifacts scored 2.5 or higher for CT, with 88% scoring in that rang for WC.
  - Reports are received for oral and written communication each year.
4. Update on annual assessment reports and syllabus reviews. Mary Beth noted that results of our evaluation of annual assessment reports were sent to departments in August. A total of 72 degree and certificate programs received evaluations as follows (AM = 7; ECS = 3; ED = 10; HP = 18; LA = 12; SC = 12; BU = 10 ; Total = 72). Syllabus Reviews for the COLA will be sent shortly. The committee reviewed 113 syllabi last spring.

Mary Beth told committee members that she will soon send annual assessment report assignments, but told them that the reviews will not be due until mid-February due to the late timing of the assignment. She said that, during the spring semester, we will compare syllabi for face-to-face and online sections of the same courses. Ralph McKinney pointed out that the LCOB has discovered that outcomes and content sometimes differ between online and face-to-face sections in their college and that different rubrics are sometimes used to assess student work. Additionally, he noted that for oral communication, they are questioning the need to assess eye contact, which is culturally sensitive, i.e., differs in appropriateness depending on cultural background. He also pointed out that eye contact can be a problem for students with disabilities, depending on the disability type. In an effort to make assessments fair and more inclusive, he recommended that we focus more on

content, message, etc. He recommended that we form a sub-committee to study and develop a policy or procedures to address these concerns. We quickly had volunteers to form this subcommittee. They are Ralph McKinney, Paula Lucas, Loukia Dixon, and Marty Laubach.

5. Program Review-HEPC Series 10 Updates: HEPC Series 10 was updated this summer. Mary Beth will send that update to the committee. It asks programs to include the following three sections in program reviews: 1) External Demand, 2) Quality of Outcomes, and 3) Deliver Cost. Mary Beth noted that only “external demand” is new. She also noted that we will use external peer reviewers for the first time this year. They will replace our former external review by members of Marshall’s Board of Governors. In response to some concerns, Mary Beth assured the Committee that expenses for this review will be minimal.
6. Department Health Checks – potential for spring submission: Due to limited time, Mary Beth said she would provide an update regarding department health checks at our December meeting.
7. Alumni Outcomes and Graduation Survey Results <https://www.marshall.edu/assessment/alumni-outcomes-and-survey-reports/>
8. Our next meeting will be a luncheon meeting on Monday, December 12 at noon; location TBD.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Mary Beth Reynolds*