



JOHNSON COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Volume 10, Issue 1
Fall 2018

SAVE THE DATE

Learn How to Integrate Canvas with Assessment, OCB 107

Tuesday, Oct 9, 2018
9:30-10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct 10, 2018
3-4 p.m.

KCPDC Workshop: Assessing Program and Course Learning Outcomes, OCB 107

Thursday, Nov 8, 2018
1-4 p.m.

Assessment by Design

Monday, Jan 14, 2018
RC 270

CRN 30145

World Café

Friday, Jan 18, 2019
RC 101

CRN 30146

Assessment Matters Regional Community College Assessment Conference

Thursday, April 25, 2019
Pre-conference
workshop (half day)

Friday, April 26, 2019
Full day of conference
featuring a keynote
speaker, vendor fair, and
breakout sessions

Spotlight on **Assessment**

The View from the Backseat



Assessment by Design

One of the most important philosophies in my office is that we are a support office for assessment activities at the College. Assessment is “driven” by faculty and we are here to encourage, cajole, resource, and generally meet the needs of faculty. Sitting as we are in the backseat of assessment as

the faculty drive the car, I have a few observations about the most common mistakes faculty make when approaching assessment activities.

1. Sometimes faculty make assessment about themselves. It's not! It is not faculty evaluation; it is not a reflection on how *good* you are. It is about student learning in your classroom.
2. Some faculty or departments like to compare themselves favorably to others. I don't really care how English is doing compared to Computer Science, and neither should the faculty. Generally speaking, departments don't know anything about the assessment plans for the other programs, the assessment instrument, or the goals of the initiative.
3. Some faculty or departments approach assessment with a sense of self-satisfaction. Although they may complain about students at the water cooler, when it comes to assessment all their students live in Lake Wobegon and are *above-average*. It is students in those other programs that need help.

In truth, there is really only one way to approach assessment. It needs to be **ALL ABOUT THE STUDENTS!** Assessment at its core is helping students improve learning in areas of the discipline and curriculum where they are struggling. That's it – nothing else. When you consider your next initiative, consider keeping that thought front and center as you drive your assessment plans.

Assessing in Canvas

JCCC has migrated to a new Learning Management System, Canvas. Join us in the CoLab to learn ways to integrate your assessment using Canvas. Learn how to import learning outcomes, assess using rubrics, attach learning outcomes to embedded test questions, and more.

Two workshops are being offered in the CoLab (OCB 107) during October: Tuesday, October 9 and Wednesday, October 10.



**Office of Assessment,
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Outcomes**

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Excellence in Outcomes Assessment Award Winners



The award for Excellence in Outcomes Assessment is given in recognition of exemplary use of assessment to improve student learning by part-time or full-time faculty in the instructional branch.

Professors Eve Blobaum and Brian Zirkle of the Sociology department were recipients of this year's assessment award. The external reviewer was impressed with the assessment work undertaken by the co-chairs of the department in a pilot, through multiple revisions, and then rolling out through multiple sections of the curriculum. The reviewer noted the packet represented a strategy that was "a well thought-out and applied assessment plan that met all of the criteria for excellence."

Eve Blobaum and Brian Zirkle were recognized at the BNSF luncheon on May 5, 2018.

MINI-GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Office of Assessment, Evaluation and Institutional Outcomes has mini-grants available, up to \$750, for full-time and adjunct teaching faculty in division or departments in the instructional branch. The grants provide a source of funds to support evidence-based initiatives to assess JCCC's student learning outcomes in credit courses.

Contact the Office of Assessment for an application or visit blogs.jccc.edu/outcomesassessment and select the Forms/ Documents tab.