SAVE THE DATE

Assessment by Design
Monday, Jan. 13, 2020
9 a.m.-4 p.m.
The Cube (RC 270)
CRN 30087

World Café
Friday, Jan. 17, 2020
Noon-2 p.m.
RC 101
CRN 30088

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 the forms/documents page at blogs.jccc.edu/outcomesassessment.

The 8th Regional Community College Assessment Conference on April 25-26, 2019 hosted more than 185 attendees hailing from ten states and over 40 two & four year colleges. The half day preconference on Thursday provided the attendees two sessions focused on co-curricular assessment and the all-day conference on Friday provided attendees the choice of 14 break-out sessions, a keynote address presented by Dr. Jeremey Penn from the University of Iowa, and a panel discussion on the Ups, Downs, In-and-Outs of Assessment comprised of professionals from around the region.

JCCC presenters included Sheri Barrett, Heather Seitz, Michelle Taylor, Tara Karaim, and Darla Green. The conference also welcomed presenters from:

- Cleveland University
- Emporia State University
- Kansas State University
- Metropolitan Community College
- Rockhurst University
- St. Louis Community College
- Southeast Community College
- University of Kansas

Join us for the next conference on April 29-30, 2021.

New Program Review Software

The Office of Assessment, Evaluation and Institutional Outcomes introduced the new program review software, Strategic Planning Online (SPOL), to the campus during Professional Development Days in August. Some of the highlights of the new software include:

- A module dedicated to short/long term planning
- Assessment findings can now be entered into the software
- Goals can be submitted to your dean/supervisor for feedback prior to completing your program review
- More robust copying/pasting from other word processing programs

Comprehensive and Annual program reviews are now due on December 30. Multiple hands-on training workshops are offered in September and additional offerings will be added as needed or requested. Please contact our office for details.
“What is the purpose of assessment?” I think every assessment director, coordinator, and faculty member has been asked this question at some point. It is a great question. I think the answer lies in your “philosophy” of assessment. I believe there are two distinct ways of looking at assessment - there are those who look to use assessment to “prove” learning and those who use assessment to “improve” learning. What’s the difference?

### Proving Student Learning
- Focuses on an external audience
- Faculty often have little influence or control in the assessment processes
- Results can be difficult to tie to the actual teaching that occurs in the classroom
- Purpose of the assessment is to satisfy accountability requirements from the state, accrediting bodies, external stakeholders, etc.

### Improving Student Learning
- Focuses on the program and the discipline
- Faculty drive the assessment processes and the interpretation of the results
- Results are based on what happens in the classroom and program
- Purpose is to improve student’s learning in the classroom/program/discipline

I support assessment practices that are focused on improving student learning, how about you?

Sheri H. Barrett