

National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment

Making Learning Outcomes Usable & Transparent

NILOA January 2013 Newsletter

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Happy New Year!

This January 2013 edition of the NILOA newsletter features NILOA's 16th Occasional Paper, *The Lumina Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP): Implications for Assessment*. The lead author is Peter Ewell from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). The paper also includes an Afterword by Carol Geary Schneider from the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U).

You can learn more about the DQP and NILOA's work at the [**2013 AAC&U Annual Meeting**](#) where we will host two sessions. The first, "The Degree Qualifications Profile: What Users Say and What Others Want to Know," is in the form of a Town Hall Meeting facilitated by George Kuh, Natasha Jankowski, Peter Ewell, Paul Gaston, and Pat Hutchings. The second session, "Regional Accreditation and Evidence of Student Learning: What Comes Next?," features panelists Peter Ewell, Stanley Ikenberry, Sylvia Manning and Barbara Brittingham.

NILOA Occasional Paper

A new Occasional Paper, NILOA's 16th, is now available:



[**The Lumina Degree Qualifications Profile \(DQP\): Implications for Assessment**](#)

Peter Ewell

Afterword by Carol Schneider

In January 2011, the Lumina Foundation published its Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP) to challenge faculty and academic leaders in the U.S. to think deeply and concretely about aligning expectations for student learning outcomes across higher education. In order to render the Profile's potential real, institutions and their faculties will need to develop consistent and systematic ways to gather

evidence that the competencies that the DQP describes are actually being mastered at the levels claimed. In this paper, Peter Ewell explores some of what needs to be done and provides a few tools and techniques (some of which are already in widespread use) that may help move assessment work forward. In her Afterword, Carol Geary Schneider discusses some of the challenges that must be addressed to realize the promise of the DQP.

NILOA Updates

NILOA's Featured Website



California Lutheran University

California Lutheran University (CLU) has about a decade's worth of experience with developing and implementing student learning outcomes (SLOs) assessment. Guided by its core commitments of Liberal Learning, Professional Preparation, and Character and Leadership Development, CLU has designed 8 detailed institutional SLOs and corresponding rubrics. Additionally, CLU provides resources to students and faculty as they use SLOs.

[Read more...](#)

DQP Updates

DQP Resources

NILOA Webinar

NILOA will conduct its second webinar in a series on assessment and the Degree Qualifications Profile on February 1st, 2013 from 12:00-12:30 CST. This webinar will provide an overview of the resources on the NILOA DQP Corner. Register for the webinar [here](#).

Prior Learning

Prior Learning assessment is a process of evaluating and recognizing learning that helps adults to earn credit for knowledge acquired through work, training, volunteer and union activities, hobbies, and other life experiences. Read more about Prior Learning [here](#).

DQP in Action

SACS

In collaboration with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), 22 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) will use the DQP to map their curriculum, particularly in mathematics and English, and identify weaknesses and strengths in teaching and learning. The mapping exercise will suggest areas of further exploration, in which the HBCUs may engage through use of the DQP.

DQP in Practice



California State University, East Bay

California State University, East Bay is using the DQP to develop Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILO) that frame the meaning, quality, and integrity of a Cal State East Bay degree and to examine linkages between general education, academic majors, and ILOs. [**Read more...**](#)

West Coast University

West Coast University (WCU) is participating in WASC's DQP Pilot, concentrating on the "Intellectual Skills" from the DQP and aligning these skills with WASC's "Graduation Proficiencies," WCU's General Education Program Learning Outcomes (PLO), and the overriding Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILO). [**Read more...**](#)

News

We collect news items from a variety of sources related to learning outcomes assessment for our website. Listed below are some from the past month:

Tests With and Without Motivation

While many institutions are measuring the value added of a college degree, new research suggests that student motivation on such tests is a clear predictor of student performance.

New Issue of Assessment Update Now Available

The latest issue of *Assessment Update: Progress, Trends and Practice in High Education* for November/December 2012 is now available.

Top 12 Teaching and Learning Articles for 2012

Based on the number of reader comments, social shares, and other factors, Faculty Focus has highlighted 12 of its 250

published articles related to teaching and learning that stood out in 2012.

Defining Learning Expectations

The American Historical Association is defining learning expectations through a Tuning Project focused on outlining a set of skills and habits of mind that college-educated students should have in relation to history.

Open Positions

Director of Assessment

Open position: Director of Assessment for the School of Leadership and Education Sciences at the University of San Diego. Position entails coordinating accreditation activities, program review, fostering a culture of assessment, and analysis of data.

Director of Learning Assessment Position Open at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth invites applications for the open position of Director of Learning Assessment. Requirements for the position include a bachelor's degree and formal training in survey design and qualitative research.

Director of Academic Assessment

The University of New Haven (CT) is seeking a Director of Academic Assessment. The position involves providing training to faculty to assist with development of learning outcomes; contributing to collection and analysis of assessment data; and contributing to ongoing efforts using surveys, e-portfolios, and program evaluation.

Upcoming Conferences and Programs

Here are conferences and workshops on learning outcomes assessment coming up in the next month:

January 23-26: **The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Colleges and Universities**
AAC&U, Atlanta, GA. ***Please consider attending NILOA's sessions.**

February 8: **AALHE Call for Proposals Due**

February 7-9: **2013 Academic Affairs Winter Meeting**
AASC&U, Point Clear, AL.

February 17-19: **13th Annual Texas A&M Assessment Conference**
College Station, TX. ***NILOA's Stan Ikenberry is as a keynote**

speaker.

February 17-19: **The Community College Conference on Learning Assessment**

Valencia College, Orlando, FL

February 19-20: **Early Workshop: Current Expectations for Assessment of Student Learning, General Education, and Student Success**

Higher Learning Commission, St. Charles, IL

February 20-22: **Assessment Workshop: Making a Difference in Student Learning Assessment as a Core Strategy**

Higher Learning Commission, St. Charles, IL

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