

Memo

To: UGEC
Date: August 2013
Re: Update on Assessment of General Education

We are accountable to governing agencies that accredit us such as SACSCOC and Department of Education as well as parents and students who seek evidence of the value of the programs we offer. For this reason, we assess the extent to which our students have attained the learning outcomes we set for general education. Here are some of the highlights of our assessments from 2012-13.

- **Writing Assessment**—72.22% of students scored 14 or greater (passing). A group of trained faculty evaluators reviewed writing samples submitted from every program on campus. This score is slightly higher than in past years and exceeds our target goal on this rigorous writing assignment, but still reminds us that students need regular opportunities to develop and practice their writing skills.
- **Research and Information Literacy**—results on this initial assessment of research and information literacy were mixed with students in Cornerstone and Core 210 meeting our targets on some measures but not on other measures. As a result, we have met with core teachers and revised assignments to improve instruction in research and information literacy in the areas students did not meet targets. The Pursuit assessment team also identified some improvements for the rubrics and assessment processes.
- **Collaborative Learning**—Data from the 2012 CIRP Freshman Survey showed that our students reported studying with other students or working with other students on group projects more frequently than students at comparable institutions.
- **Civic Engagement**—Data from the 2012 CIRP Freshman Survey showed that 95.6% of our students reported performing community service as part of a class compared to 88% of students at comparable institutions.