

## **University Academic Assessment Committee (UAAC) Report to the Faculty Senate Academic Year 2021-2022**

During the 2022-2023 academic year, the University Academic Assessment Committee (UAAC) met four times to discuss an issues related to the committee’s role to “serve as both an advisory and an assessment coordination body on all matters related to academic assessment at the University as a whole” (Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article VII, Section 14). In contrast to recent years, no specific requests were made of the UAAC from Faculty Senate committees nor from any academic unit across the SU campus. This allowed UAAC to focus primarily on brainstorming future actions the committee could take to support two major campus-wide assessment efforts: General Education Oversight Committee (GEOC) and Middle States Self-Study. During the 2022-2023 academic year, activities related to the Middle States Self-Study were primarily performed by the University Analysis, Reporting, and Assessment (UARA), with the expectation that UAAC will help in the future as document drafts are finalized. It is important to note that as the UAAC works closely with UARA office, staffing issues with that office precluded some of the typical UAAC tasks from occurring, such as providing support for the interpretation and dissemination of data collected during Gull Week assessment activities; recent hiring within UARA suggests those committee duties will resume in the upcoming year.

### **General Education Oversight Committee (GEOC)**

A significant portion of each UAAC meeting was intentionally devoted to discussing ongoing efforts by GEOC subcommittees to approve courses before SU’s transition to the new General Education Curriculum in Fall 2024. One component of each course evaluation involves the approval of the anticipated assessment component of the course, including how it directly addresses the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) identified for each GEOC category. The anticipated involvement of the UAAC in this process is consistent with a specific duty assigned to the committee as part of the Faculty Senate Bylaws; “B. Articulate and update, in coordination with the General Education Oversight Committee, a coherent plan for ongoing assessment of the General Education curriculum” (Article VII, Section 14).

While no specific requests were received from GEOC regarding their evaluation of course-specific assessments, our committee did discuss 1) options for providing responses to such requests, if they were to occur, and 2) what efforts would be necessary as this process continues in the future. Possible forms of support discussed include developing checklists GEOC members could use when classifying imbedded course assessments and identifying SLO-specific liaisons within the UAAC committee who would be most knowledgeable about course designs across academic units. Considering the tremendous workload of GEOC members during the 2022-2023 academic year, it was decided that UAAC would refrain from contacting GEOC co-chairs until after the end of the Spring 2023 semester, but instead initiate contact before Fall 2023 to explore potential support efforts UAAC could provide GEOC subcommittees. It should also be noted that a member of the UAAC— Dr. Kara Owens Raab, Associate Vice President for Planning & Assessment—routinely attends GEOC meetings to provide on-going consultation.