Question: Do we have mechanisms in place at Anne Arundel Community College that allow students to develop appropriate information literacy skills by the time they graduate?

BACKGROUND

AACCC’s Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan calls for the assessment of all of the college’s ten core competencies, including information literacy, among graduating students. Each core competency will be assessed three semesters in a row. The first assessment of information literacy was in Spring 2014.

Though it’s not possible at AACC to assess all relevant information literacy skills among graduating students, we can use student artifacts to assess some skills, and we can gather information from the college’s curriculum map and from faculty to get a better picture of when and how information literacy skills are taught and assessed.

METHODOLOGY

Query the college’s curriculum map to identify courses in which students have the opportunity to develop information literacy skills.

Among students enrolled in those courses, identify students who have also applied for graduation. Choose a random, statistically-significant sample.

Ask instructors to send relevant artifacts of student work to the Office of Learning Outcomes Assessment and to include the assignment directions.

Ask instructors to complete a survey about how they teach and assess information literacy skills, including how they and their students use library resources and services.

Once identifying features are removed from each assignment, a librarian scores it using an assignment checklist. Thirty percent are double-scored.

Once identifying features are removed from each student’s work, a librarian scores it for evidence of appropriate information literacy skills. Thirty percent are double-scored.

ASSESSMENT TOOLS

EXPECTED RESULTS OF ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- Changes to Research Assignments
- Changes to Program Curriculum
- Changes to Research Assignments
- Wider Use of the Assignment Checklist
- Wider Use of IL Scoring Rubrics
- Wider Use of Library Resources & Services

For more information about this project, including assessment tools, bibliographies, and data, visit libguides.aacc.edu/AiA