



WEAVEonlineSM

Web-based Assessment Management
Can Make All the Difference!

**Virginia Assessment Group
2005 Annual Conference
November 16, 2005**

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What you will do today

- See a live demo of a system developed at another SACS school
- Learn from questions to two colleagues from VA institutions
- Work through each of the application's modules to critique value and examine issues involved
- Discuss how else to use technology in your management of assessment (small group exercise)

QUESTION:
What do you want
from an
assessment
management
system?

Do These Sound Familiar?

- Less paper!
- More time on what's important
- System that matches staff support
- Better central access
- More standard formatting
- Reusable information

Why VCU created an online assessment management system

- 1) The challenge for us to “go public”
- 2) The tie-in to accreditations, program review, annual reporting, state requirements
- 3) The need to make both processes and results transparent
- 4) The facilitation of conversations about learning and service *because...*

It all boils down to one question:

**“Are our efforts bringing forth
the desired results?”**

Source: Franklin Covey

What does SACCS require?

Assessment in the Context of Accreditation

SACS Core Requirement 2.5

- *VCU engages in ongoing, integrated, and institution-wide research-based planning and evaluation processes that incorporate a systematic review of programs and services that (a) results in continuing improvement and (b) demonstrates that VCU is effectively accomplishing its mission.*

SACS Comprehensive Standard Institutional Effectiveness (3.3.1)

- *VCU identifies expected outcomes for its educational programs and its administrative and educational support services; assesses whether it achieves these outcomes; and provides evidence of improvement based on analysis of those results.*

SACS Comprehensive Standard All Educational Programs (3.4.1)

- *VCU demonstrates that each educational program for which academic credit is awarded (a) is approved by the faculty and the administration and (b) establishes and evaluates program and learning outcomes.*

SACS Comprehensive Standard Undergraduate Programs (3.5.1)

- *VCU identifies college-level competencies within the general education core and provides evidence that graduates have attained those competencies.*

Design Decisions

- **Assessment Design**
 - What to require?
 - How to require?
 - What to collect?
 - How to collect?
 - What to track?
 - How to track?
 - How much to share?
- **Technology Design**
 - Accessible anywhere
 - Multiple purposes
 - Where is expertise?
 - Any constraints?
 - Secure authentication
 - User-managed

Application Development Environment

- Dual Windows 2000 Server Configuration
 - MS IIs 5.0 Web Server
 - MS SQL Database Server
- Developed in ASP utilizing javascript

Return to that one question:

**“Are our efforts bringing forth
the desired results?”**

Source: Franklin Covey

Who wants to know the answer?

- Faculty and staff
- Senior administration
- Boards of visitors/trustees
- Students and parents
- K-12 teachers and counselors
- Employers and community members
- Legislators at national and state levels
- Peers (regional/disciplinary accreditation)

Are There Common Elements?

	SACS	SCHEV	PR	AR
Mission	X		X	X
Outcomes / Objectives	X	X	X	X
Measures	X	X	X	(x)
Results	X	X	X	(x)
Analysis & Action Planning	X	X	X	X

What We Used to Do

- Program assessment happened without much monitoring
- Desired outcomes were seldom public
- Assessment results and action plans were often closely held

What We Do Now

- Program assessment is emerging from behind closed doors
- Desired outcomes are more open for collaboration
- Assessment results and action plans are both reported and reviewed

- We are more collaborative about what we attempt and how we think about learning and service.
- We are more intentional about what we do, in framing both desired outcomes and action plans for continuing improvement.
- We are more evidence-based in our decisions throughout the various stages of the assessment cycle.

Demonstration and Critique

We will...

- examine each section of WEAVEonlineSM
- think through the important issues related to each stage of an assessment and IE cycle

You will...

- critique the program and post any questions and/or comments when we take a break

Outcomes/Objectives

- Features

- Short and full descriptions
- Student learning outcome designation
- Association with general education
- Optional associations with strategic plans, institutional priorities, standards

- Issues

- Required fields
- Relationships
- Preloading of choices
- .
- .
- .
- .
- .

Measures & Findings

- **Features**

- Short and full descriptions
- Relationship to outcomes/objectives
- Target level for expected learning
- Actual findings
- Achievement level
- Action indication

- **Issues**

- Required fields
- Relationship
- Target level setting
- Achievement query
- Action query
- .
- .
- .

Action Plan

- Features

- Short and full descriptions
- Relationship to outcomes/objectives and measures
- Recommendations for action tracking: responsible person, target date, priority, additional resources

- Issues

- Required fields
- Relationships
- Action planning format
- .
- .
- .
- .
- .

Analysis (and Annual Report)

- Features

- Assessed strengths
- Assessed areas that need attention
- Executive summary
- Contributions
- Highlights
- Scholarly activities
- Community service
- Challenges

- Issues

- Required fields
- Separation of uses
- Timing of reporting
- .
- .
- .
- .

Reports

- **Features**

- Detailed report of all data entry, showing all relationships; exportable to Word
- Annual report
- Data entry status details
- Data audits for missing elements

- **Issues**

- Mixture of uses
- Standard reports
- Report generation
- Need for self audits
- .
- .
- .
- .

Tracking

- **Features**

- Ongoing log of actions, showing year of origin
- Tracking over time
- Easy status updates and comments
- Editing (current-year only) allowed as details of action plan modify over time

- **Issues**

- Length of time for log
- Choices for status
- Allowance of editing
- Comments section
- .
- .
- .
- .

New! Curriculum Mapping

- Added **tool for reflection** on how program and general education outcomes are developed through courses and other experiences in the curriculum
- Can **tie into program reviews**
- Also decided to include the **tracking of engagement strategies**, supporting VCU's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

15-minute break before administrative workspace demo

Please post your questions and
comments before leaving.

Thank you.

Administrative Workspace

- Managing:
 - Programs/structure
 - People/contacts
- Mailing to contacts
- Reporting across programs
- Monitoring:
 - Data entry status
 - Missing elements
- Listing:
 - Student learning outcomes
 - General education, strategic plan, and institutional priority associations
- Accessing archives
- Searching by
 - Keywords

Questions & Comments

- **Questions posted**
- **Comments made**
- What else would you like to ask at this point?
- What other issues would you like to raise at this point?

How else might you use WEAVEonlineSM or other types of technology in your SACS review?

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

Workshop Review – Questions?

- See a live demo of a system developed at another SACS school
- Learn from questions to two colleagues from VA institutions
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Thank you for joining us today!

Remember to complete an evaluation.

If you are interested in spending more time
with WEAVEonlineSM, please go to:

www.weaveonline.net/welcome