

**Office of Academic Assessment  
Workshop Schedule  
Fall, 2009**

**New This Semester! Assessment Coffee and Conversation Series** – Workshops in this series will provide attendees with the opportunity to chat with faculty members and administrators who have found successful ways to make program assessment a meaningful part of their work. Come enjoy a cup of coffee and an interesting conversation!

- **The English Studies ePortfolio Starter Kit** – Facilitators: English department faculty members Jennifer Lawrence, Nancy Metz, Steve Oakey, and Vanessa Ruccolo will share information about the English ePortfolio project as it attempts to balance the department's needs for student development and assessment. The presenters will describe the collaborative process of creating the ePortfolio Starter Kit, a program-spanning manual designed to articulate both the "how" and the "why" of ePortfolios.
- **Using Assessment Grant Funds to Improve Programs** – Facilitators: 2008-2009 Office of Academic Assessment Grant Recipients including Barb Bekken, Therese Lovegreen, Kim Brown, and Gary Skaggs – This panel of faculty and academic administrators will discuss their experiences as assessment grantees in the inaugural year of the program, including the crafting of the grant proposal and effective strategies for using the funding to promote the improvement of student learning within their department/program.
- **Career Service's Annual Post-Graduation Survey and Report** – Facilitator: Catherine Copeland, Assistant Director for Assessment and IT in Career Services – Since the late 1970s, Career Services at Virginia Tech has conducted an annual survey of graduating students to gather information on their post-graduation plans and status. The survey also asks graduates about their career-related advice sources, experience during college, what they wished they'd done differently, and more. This presentation will explain the history, rationale, methodology, and results of the survey, as well as answer questions about the data overall and for specific colleges and majors.
- **Blending University Assessment Requirements with Discipline-Specific Accreditation Requirements** – Facilitators: Candi Clemenz, Eileen Van Aken, and others. Panelists will share best practices for creating symbiotic connections between institutional requirements and external accreditors to meet assessment obligations without driving yourself and your colleagues crazy!
- **Virginia Tech 2009 University Senior Survey** – Facilitator: Steve Culver, Associate Director of Academic Assessment. This session will provide a report to the campus community of selected findings from the survey of graduating seniors administered in the spring of 2009. Opportunities for dialogue about results will be provided. (Presented in collaboration with the University Academic

Advising Center and the Center for Academic Enrichment and Excellence as part of their Afternoon Chat Series)

**WEAVEonline Series** – WEAVEonline is the assessment data management system used at Virginia Tech. The workshops in this series offer practical advice and suggestions for using this system.

- **Introduction to WEAVEonline** – This workshop will present participants with an overview of WEAVEonline. It is primarily aimed at individuals who are responsible for assessment in their programs and have little or no experience with WEAVE (or for those who want a fundamental refresher).
- **WEAVEonline Help Session** – These sessions are for those who have questions about elements of WEAVEonline as they relate to their areas.

**Assessment Toolbox Series:** This series of workshops will provide an introduction to several methods that provide information to inform a continuous improvement process.

- **Effective Use of Focus Groups** – This workshop is designed to present the basics of organizing and conducting a focus group to collect qualitative information. Topics discussed will include setting, framing of questions, and collection and analysis of data.
- **Developing Effective Surveys** – This workshop is designed to introduce the participant to elements of effective survey design. Construction of items, ordering of questions, and analysis of responses will be among the topics discussed.
- **Assessing Essential Learning Outcomes with the “VALUE” METARUBRICS** – Building on last year’s introduction to the VALUE METARUBRICS, this session will provide an opportunity to explore specific strategies for incorporating assessment of essential learning outcomes into coursework and program evaluation and begin to address pragmatic issues such as inter-rater reliability and sampling of student work for effective and efficient assessment of student learning via rubrics.
- **Qualitative Methods of Assessment** – Or, assessment does not equal “counts”! Feel stymied by the (false) conception that assessment of student learning outcomes means multiple-choice testing? This session will provide key examples of sound qualitative methodologies to use in lieu of or to complement quantitative approaches to assessing student learning.

**Schedule of Workshops:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sept. 10	2-4	Qualitative Methods of Assessment	Hillcrest 122
Sept. 14	3-5	Introduction to WEAVEonline	Torgersen 3060

Sept. 16	1-3	Introduction to WEAVEonline	Torgersen 3060
Sept. 21	10-12	WEAVEonline Help Session	Torgersen 3060
Sept. 22	2-4	Virginia Tech 2009 University Senior Survey	Torgersen 1100
Sept. 23	10-12	Assessing Essential Learning Outcomes with the "VALUE" METARUBRICs	Hillcrest 122
Sept. 25	9-11	WEAVEonline Help Session	Torgersen 3060
Sept. 30	3-5	Developing Effective Surveys	Hillcrest 122
Oct. 5	1-3	Qualitative Methods of Assessment	Hillcrest 122
Oct. 6	10-12	Assessing Essential Learning Outcomes with the "VALUE" METARUBRICs	Hillcrest 122
Oct. 13	9-11	WEAVEonline Help Session	Torgersen 3060
Oct. 15	3-4:30	Assessment Coffee and Conversation Session: Providing Students Direction with ePortfolios	Hillcrest 122
Oct. 20	3-5	Effective Use of Focus Groups	Hillcrest 122
Oct. 22	3-4:30	Assessment Coffee and Conversation Session: Using Assessment Grant Funds to Improve Programs	Hillcrest 122
Oct. 28	10-12	WEAVEonline Help Session	Torgersen 3060
Nov. 4	3-4:30	Assessment Coffee and Conversation Session: Career Service's Annual Post-Graduation Survey and Report	Hillcrest 122
Nov. 11	3-4:30	Assessment Coffee and Conversation Session: Blending University Assessment Requirements with Discipline-Specific Accrediting Agencies	Hillcrest 122

**To register for these workshops, send a message to Steve Culver at [sculver@vt.edu](mailto:sculver@vt.edu) with your name and the name of the workshop(s) you wish to attend. You may also contact the Office of Academic Assessment by phone at 231-6823 or visit our website at [www.aap.vt.edu](http://www.aap.vt.edu) .**