

MLS Assessment Committee Meeting  
April 1, 2021 via WebEx  
3:00 – 3:40

Present: Colon-Aguirre, Dotson, Jones, Marson

Dr. Marson reminded everyone that the unit assessment report will be coming up soon. In this report, we will report on six outcomes. Next year, we will transition to reporting on five outcomes annually and drop 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills as an outcome. We may consider changing one of these and Dr. Colon-Aguirre suggested something along the line of diversity, but wondered if that would be wise, given our ALA re-accreditation efforts. Dr. Marson stated that we don't have to wait until after the visit to change an outcome and that this process would be a strength that indicates planning and evolving. Social justice was another suggestion that had been put forth, but the committee had voted to make any change for next academic year.

Dr. Marson reminded the committee that last fall the Curriculum Committee had indicated that they would review the portfolio process. That committee will report at the Curriculum Workshop on May 13. In the meantime, it has been suggested that we survey current students and alumni on their perceptions of the portfolio process.

The committee then discussed the purpose of the portfolio. Dr. Marson reported that Taskstream is not currently a requirement; however, many programs in the College of Education are using it. Dr. Jones stated that he would not want to eliminate Taskstream out of hand and Dr. Marson stated that she sees Taskstream as a "container," not the process. She shared that the Adult Education program has a portfolio review that is more robust. The point was raised that our student numbers are more than adult education. Dr. Marson has also reviewed three other library science programs – UNCG, Kentucky, and USC, and believes that our program needs more student engagement in the process and meaningful reflections.

Dr. Colon-Aguirre clarified that we need to determine the purpose of a survey. The committee agreed that it would be one to determine perceptions of the portfolio process itself and perceptions of its value.

A general outline of questions was discussed:

- Status – alum or student
- If alum, how long since graduation
- Questions regarding value of the portfolio and ease of use of Taskstream with Likert scales
- Question regarding the accessibility of standards and clarity, again with Likert scale
- Open-ended question(s), possibly soliciting suggestions to improve the process
- Any other comments regarding the portfolio and the curriculum

Dr. Marson will compile a draft of survey questions for the committee to review with a target time frame for deployment in fall 2021. Dr. Colon-Aguirre recommended that when we are ready to advertise the survey, to also have faculty post the information in Canvas in their courses along with the listserv announcement.