

UT MARTIN ASSESSMENT NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2017

Reminders, reminders, and more reminders...

Reminder #1—Assessment Guidebooks!

Your unit assessment guidebooks are due March 31. We have already received several guidebooks from across campus and have been intrigued by the variety of assessments and activities your units are doing. We will post these on the UTM Assessment SharePoint site next month. We'll also share with you some of the things we have discovered from your guidebooks.

Reminder #2—Scholarfest Assessment Day!

The UT Martin Scholarfest organizers have graciously agreed to combine our Assessment Day celebration with the Scholarfest activities. Scholarfest Assessment Day will be Thursday, April 27, in the University Center Ballroom. Information was provided in an email from Stephanie Kolitsch on March 16. If you need information or the entry form, please let Stephanie (styler@utm.edu) or Patty Flowers (pflowers@utm.edu) know. The SACS Coordination Office also has tri-fold display boards available for your poster; just let us know on your entry form that you need one. Entry forms are due April 21.

Reminder #3—MILE Program!

This semester, we are completing the UT Martin MILE Program, our quality enhancement plan begun in 2012 as part of our ten-year SACSCOC compliance report.

Some of you are teaching courses associated with the MILE Program. If you are teaching one of these courses (you know who you are), please remind your students to take the SAILS Information Literacy test.

Remember, the last day to take the test is April 15, and students who complete the test will be entered into a drawing for one of eight gift cards. We will report on the results of the SAILS test in a future newsletter.

Reminder #4—Upcoming SACSCOC meetings!

Don't forget that UT Martin is supporting two individuals' attendance at SACSCOC institutes. The 2017 SACSCOC Summer Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation is in Austin, TX, July 16-19 (<http://www.sacscoc.org/institute.asp>) and the 2017 SACSCOC Annual Meeting will be December 2-5 in Dallas, TX (<http://www.sacscoc.org/aamain.asp>). We have several people who have already expressed interest in the summer institute. Conference registration for the December meeting will open in May. We will send an email in late April with details on how to apply to attend that meeting.

Reminder #5—Fifth Year Interim Report!

We are working on our Fifth Year Interim Report and will be requesting information from some of you between now and December. We will try to give you ample time to gather the information we have requested; rarely, we may need information quickly. If we have already requested

information from you, please make sure you get that to us.

Academic annual assessment reports are due October 1, 2017, and non-academic assessment reports are due in December 2017 and January 2018. We will be including these reports in the Fifth Year Interim Report, so please make sure we receive these reports on time.

From Data to Decisions—Living Learning Communities

UT Martin has implemented academic Living Learning Communities (LLCs) in Agriculture, Criminal Justice, Engineering, Music, Nursing, and Pre-Med, and has a lifestyle LLC in Global Experience (see <https://www.utm.edu/departments/housing/lc.php> for more information). Our LLCs are located in Cooper Hall and have suites housing 6-8 people, common areas, and community rooms with presentation technology, study rooms, and a break room. **Housing and Residence Life** has been monitoring the implementation of the LLCs since Fall 2016. A student survey has indicated that 86% of the students are interested in an academic LLC. Dr. George Daniel and Mr. Ryan Martin analyzed fall

GPA's of students enrolled in GENS 101. The data showed that students enrolled in GENS 101 and assigned to an LLC had an average of 0.16 higher GPA than students who were enrolled in GENS 101 but were assigned to traditional residence halls. Students in the Music LLC posted an average GPA 0.94 higher than their counterparts while students in the Pre-Med LLC posted an average GPA 0.83 higher than their counterparts. Additional data is being collected to determine whether the LLCs should be expanded to other programs.

The **Office of Student Conduct** routinely monitors student alcohol violations to identify trends. In 2015-16, most violations were discovered during routine room checks. In Fall 2016, the majority of alcohol violations were related to groups of four or more having social gatherings on campus. Only one incident of alcohol violation was noted in Cooper Hall (the location of the LLCs), while higher incidents were reported in University Village I and II. These preliminary data suggest that targeted alcohol prevention programming may not be necessary for LLC residents. The Office of Student Conduct will continue to monitor these trends.

Scholarfest Assessment Day Poster Entry Form

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| Name of Unit: | |
| Poster Title: | |
| Contact Person: | |
| Email: | |
| Phone Number: | |
| Campus Address: | |
| Do you need a tri-fold poster board? (Yes / No) | |

Please return your entry form to Stephanie Kolitsch (styler@utm.edu) or Patty Flowers (pflowers@utm.edu) in the SACS Accreditation Office (310 Administration Building).