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DOC 2017-04 University Policy on Assessment for Undergraduate Student Learning

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Academic Policies Committee

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PROPOSAL TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE

TITLE: University Policy on Assessment for Undergraduate Student Learning

SUBMITTED BY: Academic Policy Committee

DATE: October 20, 2017

ACTION: Legislative Authority

REFERENCE: University of Dayton Plan for Assessment of Undergraduate Student Learning

Background

In preparation for the Higher Learning Commission site visit in 2018, the University Assessment Committee (UAC), which acts under the authority of the Provost, reviewed many of the policies and procedures related to assessment for student learning at the University of Dayton. In these discussions, it was brought to the attention of the Academic Policy Committee of the Academic Senate that there was not a Senate-approved policy on assessment for undergraduate student learning. In order to clearly outline the purpose of assessment, as well as the role and reporting duties of the UAC, the APC proposes the following policy.

Proposed Policy

University Policy on Assessment for Undergraduate Student Learning

1. Purpose of Policy

This policy guides undergraduate student learning assessment. The University of Dayton considers assessment for undergraduate student learning to be an integral component of the daily operations of every unit on campus, both in the classroom setting and beyond. All academic units at UD are required to engage in some form of undergraduate student learning assessment, and other units are encouraged to participate. The purpose of assessment is for continuous improvement. Undergraduate student learning assessment is not program evaluation or review, and is not an evaluation of faculty or student performance at the course-level.

2. The Policy

The University requires that undergraduate assessment for student learning be conducted on an ongoing basis. The University holds local units responsible for carrying out their own assessment activities, as articulated in unit processes. Under the authority of the Provost, the University Assessment Committee (UAC) annually reports a summary of assessment results and actions taken as a result of the assessment activities to the Provost and Academic Senate. The UAC serves as a resource to the units represented on the committee, as well as for the campus community more broadly.

Guiding the UAC in its work is the University of Dayton Plan for Assessment of Student Learning. The UAC is responsible for developing, maintaining and updating the plan on an ongoing basis in order to reflect best practices in assessment and the needs of UD units.

3. Assessment Reporting

The UAC analyzes yearly assessment reports provided by the units, and writes the annual university-wide assessment report that is shared with the Provost and the Academic Senate during the Fall semester, per guidelines set forth in the University Assessment Plan. The UAC is available to provide an annual update to the Academic Senate if requested.

Policy Maintenance: The Office of the Provost maintains the University Policy on Assessment for Undergraduate Student Learning