

**UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT STEERING COMMITTEE:
Charge And Preliminary Tasks (September 2001)
for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 Years**

COMMITTEE CHARGE:

To develop and recommend assessment policy and plans for Western Michigan University. In recommending assessment initiatives, policy, and plans for the University, the Committee provides formal faculty leadership and direction for all institutional and program assessment endeavors explained through annual reports and recommendations to the academic departments, the Faculty Senate and the Provost of WMU.

PRELIMINARY COMMITTEE TASKS:

1. Orient committee colleagues to current assessment programs nationally
2. Review North Central Assessment requirements, latest NCA team report, along with the prospective revisions to the University's mission statement.
3. Inventory and review existing assessment program plans for majors, curricula or graduate concentrations along with accreditation requirements
4. Determine and recommend a general education assessment program
5. Consider international education activities and continuing education site assessment plans in terms of "home" campus graduate and undergraduate degree program requirements and assessment alternatives
6. Determine what technical development assessment resources are needed at department and program levels and for individual faculty
7. Review and select specialized assessment resources in order to provide the needed technical assistance to departments, programs and colleges
8. Consider specialized assessment policies, for example, for international students, students with learning disabilities, and transfer students
9. Examine the benefits and costs of using web technology for multiple assessment purposes including the establishment of a WMU assessment web site in concert with institutional strategic planning and accreditation reviews