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NILOA January 2021 Newsletter

What a start to 2021! With the insurrection on our nation's capital within the first week of January to the historic moment of watching the inauguration of our first Black Vice President, Kamala Harris, just yesterday, I echo National Youth Poet Laureate, Amanda Gorman "while we hurt, we hoped." It is this hope I carry as the new Acting Director of NILOA and I hope you'll continue to support NILOA and I on this assessment ride! And if you're still working to process events from these past couple of weeks either by yourself or with students, the [American Historical Association](#) has put together resources to assist with contextualization from a historical perspective. We still have SO much work to do.

In case you missed the announcement in December, Dr. Natasha Jankowski has joined AEFIS as Director of Assessment Success. She has been the backbone of NILOA for so many years that her presence and thought leadership will certainly be missed. However, lucky for us, she is still and will continue to be influencing the field of assessment with her knowledge, skills, philosophical questions, and positive attitude. We wish you all the best Dr. Jankowski in your new role! (And if you'd like to follow her, see the Event Calendar below with one of her first webinars at AEFIS.)

We are excited to begin 2021 by formally announcing that NILOA has been awarded a Lumina Foundation grant to lead work in revising the Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP)! In this work, we will meet with various stakeholders to support the update of the Degree Qualifications Profile and its

official transition to NILOA. Look out for updates of this process in future newsletters.

This abbreviated January 2021 edition of the NILOA Newsletter highlights an update to Carnegie Mellon University's Case Study, an Assessment in Practice focused on the fine and performing arts at Columbia College in Chicago, and concludes with announcements and information on forthcoming events.

NILOA Case Study

Carnegie Mellon University: Building an Infrastructure for Data-Informed Learning Improvement

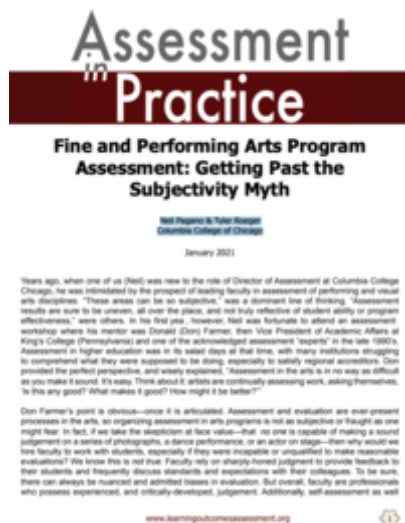
Marsha C. Lovett

As part of an ongoing effort to track and explore developments in student learning outcomes assessment, NILOA has published over 20 institutional case studies. We are now revisiting and updating some of those earlier examples in order to understand more concretely how campus assessment practices evolve over time—through lessons learned from local experience but also as a result of changes in institutional priorities, the launch of new initiatives, leadership transitions, and trends in the larger assessment movement.

This case study on Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) is an update of the original case study from 2012. The first case study described CMU's approach to addressing the challenges of assessment, exploring the salient elements of CMU's culture for assessment and improvement, and focused on the positioning and role of the Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence in student learning outcomes assessment at CMU. In this updated case, Building an Infrastructure for Data-Informed Learning Improvement, Marsha C. Lovett writes about the evolving relationship between assessment and faculty development and how the renamed Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence and Educational Innovation serves as the hub of such work. **[Read more...](#)**



Assessment in Practice



Fine and Performing Arts Program Assessment: Getting Past the Subjectivity Myth

Neil Pagano & Tyler Roeger
Columbia College of Chicago

This Assessment in Practice highlights program-level assessment efforts at Columbia College in Chicago. Examples of using faculty and/or professional panels to assess student work in both television and photography programs are shared. [Read more...](#)

Announcements:

Position Open at State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO)

From SHEEO: SHEEO is currently hiring a policy analyst to contribute to our expanding research efforts in its Boulder, CO, office. We seek diverse candidates and hope to recruit someone enthusiastic about state higher education policy, a strong researcher who has a diverse set of experiences and skills. We will be giving **full consideration to those applications received by January 22**. A full description of the position and application instructions can be found using this link: <https://sheeo.org/sheeo-job-posting-policy-analyst-2/>.

Position Open for Director, Student-Directed Learning Office at Metropolitan State University

Metropolitan State University, in the Minnesota State system, is looking for its next Director of its Student-Directed Learning Office. The Student-Directed Learning (SDL) Office promotes, coordinates, and monitors alternative learning strategies including Credit for Prior Learning and Prior Learning Assessment, and Student-Designed Independent Studies. The closing date for applications is February 1, 2021, and more information can be found here: <https://metrostate.peopleadmin.com/postings/1645>.

NILOA Fellow, Dr. Verna Orr, Book Chapter Now Released

NILOA Fellow, Dr. Verna Orr, has written a chapter titled, *A Syncopated Scholarly Journey: The Rhythm and Rhyme to Keep On Moving*, in the newly released book, *Elevating Marginalized Voices in Academe: Lessons for a New*

Generation of Scholars, available for pre-order. This book is described as “an anthology of narratives from Scholars of Color about traversing doctoral studies in American higher education.” A webinar highlighting the books' authors is forthcoming.

Upcoming Conferences and Programs

All events listed are virtual unless noted otherwise:

January 20-23. [AAC&U Annual Meeting](#).

January 22-23. [12th Annual Forum on Digital Learning and ePortfolios](#).

January 25. [Call for Proposals for 25th Annual Illinois Community College Assessment Fair](#).

January 26. [25th Annual Illinois Community College Assessment Fair](#).

January 26-28. [CHEA 2021 Annual Conference](#).

January 27-28. [Comprehensive Learner Record \(CLR\) Showcase](#).

***Dr. Gianina Baker will serve as a panelist on both days.**

January 27. [AEFIS Campfire Chat with Natasha Jankowski: “Why I joined the AEFIS Team!”](#)

***Dr. Gianina Baker will serve as a panelist.**

January 28. [A Career in Assessment-How did we get here?](#) Presented by ACPA's Commission for Assessment and Evaluation.

***Dr. Gianina Baker will serve as a panelist.**

January 29-30. [8th Annual SLO Symposium](#).

January 29. Applications open for [Spring 2021 Assessment Academy](#).

February 3-5. Call for Proposals due for the [38th Academic Chairpersons Conference](#).

February 7. Call for Proposals due for the [Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education \(AALHE\)](#).

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