

# Two- or four-year institution ... doesn't matter: Student success is student success



**Advancing a Massachusetts Culture of Assessment (AMCOA) Conference**

**April 23, 2012**

**University of Massachusetts Boston**

Copyright © 2012 Framingham State University and MassBay Community College

# Introduction

---

- First-year freshmen and first-year transfer students
  - Achieve learning outcomes
  - *Deserve* a positive academic experience
- Partnership with MassBay Community College and Framingham State University



# Goal

---

Identify ways to improve the academic experience and success of students who transfer from a community college to a four-year institution by using common assessment tools (i.e., AAC&U rubrics) and aligning objectives and outcomes.



# Objectives

---

1. Continue to build upon assessment processes *already* in development at MassBay and FSU
2. Identify strengths and weaknesses in the General Education curriculum
3. Utilize demographic information for a seamless transition and identify indicators of student success
4. Explore technology as a cross-campus assessment platform
5. Influence and inspire changes to the curriculum
6. Create and continue a partnership between a two- and four- year institution

# Objective 1: Continue assessment processes

---

- Focus on:
  - Written Communication
  - Quantitative Literacy
  - Critical Thinking



# Objective 1: Continue assessment processes

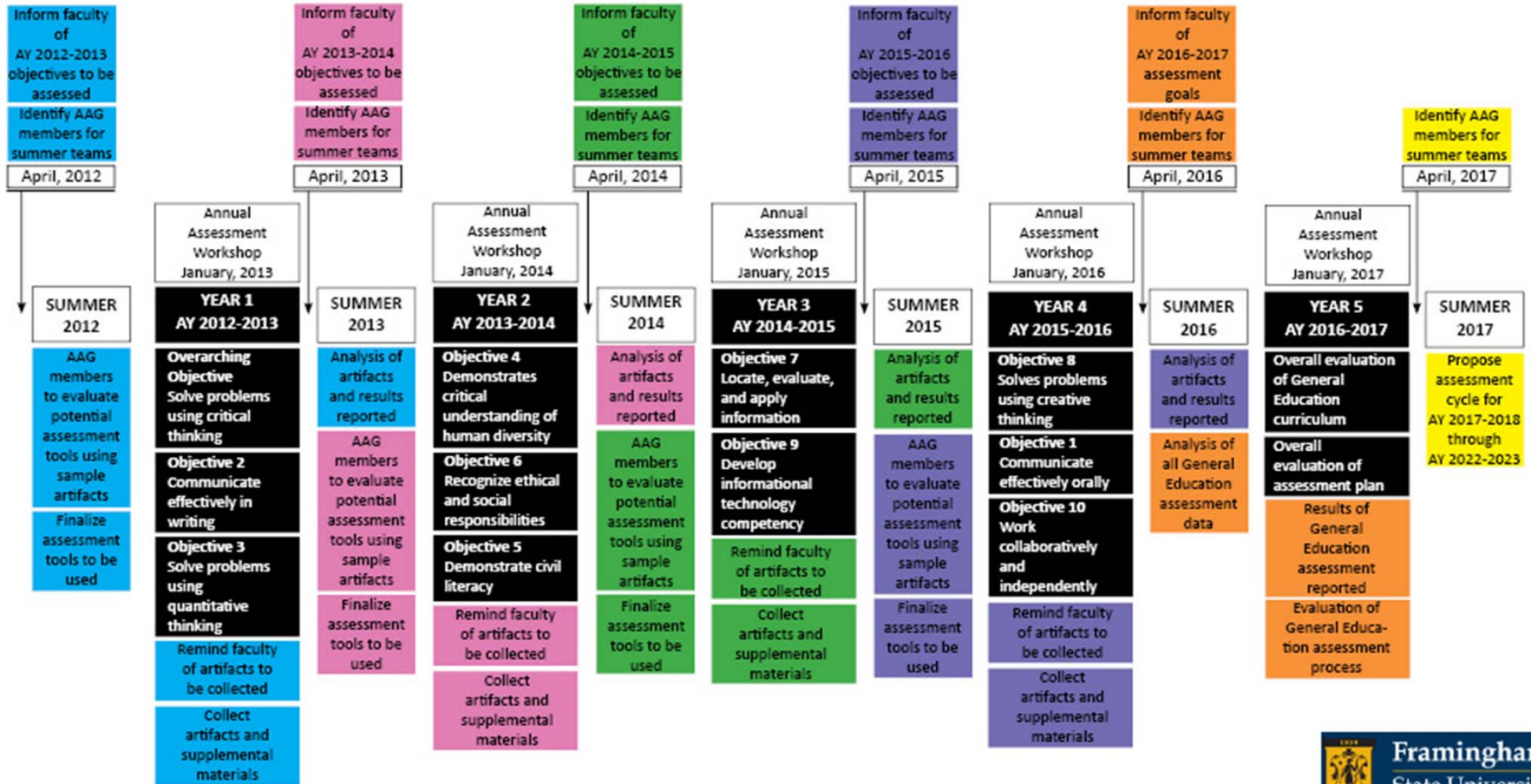
---

- Both institutions
  - Fostering a culture of assessment
  - Faculty development in assessment
  - Convened “Assessment Advisory Group”
  - Reviewed AAC&U rubrics to adopt for assessment
  - Assessing General Education curriculum
  - Developing assessment plans for individual programs
  - Course mapping



# GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PLAN

DRAFT as of: April 21, 2012



## Objective 2: Strengths/weaknesses in Gen Ed

The first assessment cycle will provide data to identify strengths and weaknesses in the General Education curriculum.





# Objective 3: Indicators of student success

---

- Qualitative research in development at both institutions
- Identifying and establishing benchmarks that are measured and tracked using quantitative data
  - Allows for the examination of a broader array of student success measures



# Objective 4: Assessment software

---

- Assessment Software Task Force
  - Preview of LiveText
  - Next step: Needs assessment at both institutions
  - Recommendations from the task force to be made by December, 2012



# Objective 5: Inspire and influence improvement

Once the faculty have experienced the first assessment cycle, it will provide the opportunity to make data driven decisions that will improve teaching and learning.



# Objective 6: Build and continue partnership

---

- Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
- Developing summer bridge program
- Improving academic experience of transfer students
  - Example: Orientation program designed especially for transfer students
- Potential collaboration in improving developmental courses in mathematics



# Estimated timeline

---

<b>Summer, 2012</b>	Written Communication, Critical Thinking, Quantitative Literacy rubric norming sessions by faculty with artifacts from both institutions
<b>AY 2012-2013</b>	Collect artifacts
<b>Winter Break</b>	Pilot test rubrics with artifacts collected in Fall, 2012
<b>December, 2012</b>	Make assessment software recommendation
<b>January, 2013</b>	Report initial findings and revise assessment tool if necessary
<b>Summer, 2013</b>	Assess artifacts, analyze, report results, make suggestions for improvement





**Framingham**  
State University

## Susan Chang

*Director of Assessment*  
schang2@framingham.edu  
(508) 626-4670

## Ellen Zimmerman

*Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs*  
ezimmerman@framingham.edu  
(508) 626-4582



*Your dreams. Our mission.*

## Yves Salomon-Fernandez

*Dean of Institutional Planning, Research and Assessment*  
ysalomonfernandez@massbay.edu  
(781) 239-3159

## Lori Weir

*Instructional Design Specialist*  
lweir@massbay.edu  
(781) 239-3164