

Language, Literacy and Special Populations, Department of  
Assessment Plan Summary

Language, Literacy and Special Populations, Department of

Faculty Excellence

Goal Description:

The Department of Language, Literacy & Special Populations will create an environment conducive to research and writing, collaborative teaching, professional growth, and faculty community.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Collaboration In Teaching

Performance Objective Description:

Faculty will engage in collaborative teaching

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Co-Teaching

KPI Description:

Faculty members will share expertise with colleagues, which will be documented on the Chair's Evaluation of Teaching. Last year 92% of faculty shared expertise. Our goal this year is raised from 92% to 95% for 2015-2016.

Results Description:

This year faculty shared their expertise in teaching and research in a variety of ways, at LLSP meeting, through trainings, mentoring of new and junior faculty, through research presentations at the college level, and through department and program meetings. All tenure track faculty members, clinical faculty and full time adjunct faculty participated in disseminating information about their teaching and research interests as well as service interests through discussions and presentations. Dr. Ates was contacted multiple times by different faculty who were new to online teaching for assistance, Dr. Stockall, mentored new faculty teaching alternate sections of an online class she developed, Each program identified a "lead" professor to assist others teaching additional sections of courses and faculty who were teaching a course for the first time were provided with access to previous semester notes, teaching information and Blackboard information.

Additionally, some sections of Literacy Block and SPED block classes were co-taught.

This goal was met.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Actions Taken Based on 2016-2017 Data Assessment Results

Action Description:

Actions Taken Based on 2016-2017 Data Assessment Results

Three goals were set for the 2016-2017 academic year by LLSP Department. These goals state that LLSP department will:

- 1. Create an environment conducive to research and writing, collaborative teaching, professional growth, and faculty community.
- 2. Develop programs to meet student needs.
- 3. Improve graduate and undergraduate course offerings.

The 2016-2017 goals focused on three areas of **Faculty Excellence, Institutional Effectiveness, and Program Quality and Effectiveness.** Based on results obtained from these goals, the following actions were taken. LLSP Department will:

- 1. Continue to support faculty excellence by securing travel and research funding.
- 2. Continue to assess the effectiveness of program quality and effectiveness by closing the loop of evaluation and assessment as LLSP faculty continue to improve each program based on assessment data shared.
- 3. Continue to develop programs that meet the needs of LLSP student population.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

**Collaboration in Research And Writing**

**Performance Objective Description:**

Faculty will engage in collaborative research and writing.

**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2**

**Research And Writing Groups**

**KPI Description:**

Faculty groups for research collaboration and research and writing accountability have been established within the department, and our goal to have at least four collaborative articles submitted for publication was met in 2014-15. Our goal for 2015-2016 is to have at least four collaborative articles *published* in peer-reviewed professional journals.

**Results Description:**

Of the 57 articles published with in the department this year, 17 of them were collaborative articles.

**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3**

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**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1**

**Faculty Community**

**Performance Objective Description:**

The Department of Language, Literacy & Special Populations will provide opportunities for faculty to build professional collegiality and community.

**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2**

**Departmental Days**

**KPI Description:**

Because our goal to have at least 50% attendance at special events and committee meetings on Fridays was met, faculty was asked for input regarding campus presence. The goal for 2015-2016 is that 90% of faculty will comply with the departmental policy for campus presence.

**Results Description:**

The departmental policy of faculty presence was discussed at departmental meetings. Due to the various sites - Huntsville campus, Woodlands Campus, Field sites in the schools, and online delivery it was decided that faculty should be accessible to students for a minimum of 3 hours a week per course taught, and in the Huntsville office one day a week at the minimum. This goal was met by most of the faculty. There were some faculty who taught completely online or off campus and met with students online or in the field for multiple hours a week, but did not have physical office hours on the Huntsville campus each week.

Response to student need was met. Faculty work on committees was met. and faculty presence in office was met at a 70% level.

**RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3**

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#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

##### Professional Development

##### Performance Objective Description:

The Department of Language, Literacy & Special Populations will provide opportunities for professional development in areas of interest and need.

#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

##### Workshop Series

##### KPI Description:

Since 67% of faculty facilitated professional development diversity presentations in 2015-2016, we met the objective (i.e. 30% of faculty would volunteer and facilitate at least one of these sessions). Since our department is planning to emphasize publishing in scholarly books and journals, as well as the integration of more ACE experiences in our coursework, for 2016-2017 we will be conducting professional development on these two topics. The goal for 2016-2017 is that 30% of faculty will volunteer to present in professional development sessions on research/writing and their own ACE coursework.

##### Results Description:

12 Faculty members presented at Departmental and College level research presentations. Additionally, 98% of the faculty members presented outside the College/University to specific professional organizations, locally, statewide, regionally, nationally and internationally.

#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

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#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

##### Scholarly Productivity

##### Performance Objective Description:

Faculty will engage in research and writing leading to scholarly publications

#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

##### Publications

##### KPI Description:

The goal for 2015-16 was that 55% of faculty would have at least two publications, and since 67% achieved the goal, that criterion was met. For 2016-2017, the expectation is that 75% of faculty will have at least two publications in peer-reviewed academic journals or books.

##### Results Description:

Based on vitae information departmental production in peer reviewed journals exceeded 60 articles. In addition to these peer reviewed articles there were multiple grants, books, and research projects. 75% of faculty published 2 or more articles in peer reviewed journals.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

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Institutional Effectiveness

Goal Description:

The Department of Language, Literacy & Special Populations will develop programs to meet student needs.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Program Options

Performance Objective Description:

The Department of Language, Literacy & Special Populations will provide instruction using a variety of formats: face-to-face, online, and hybrid.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Academic Community Engagement

KPI Description:

The goal to offer at least 15 courses designated as "Academic Community Engagement" each semester was met in 2015-2016. However, further analysis indicated that all of those courses were offered in undergraduate coursework. The goal for 2016-2017 will be to integrate ACE experiences in at least two graduate courses in our department.

Results Description:

We exceeded the goal - We did have eight courses designated as ACE courses at the graduate level (5000 - 7000) in the department of LLSP in 2016. ECHE 5363, LITC 7345, READ 5307, SPED 6312, SPED 6311, SPED 6309, SPED 6308, and SPED 6304. We also have courses that required the students and professors to work in the schools or with community groups - SPED 5301, 5305, 6301, 6328. READ 6310, BESL 5088.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

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## Program Quality And Effectiveness

### Goal Description:

The Department of Language, Literacy & Special Populations will improve graduate and undergraduate course offerings.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

### Redesign of EC-6 and 4-8 Teacher Preparation Programs

#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

### Submission of Form B's to the University Curriculum Committee

#### KPI Description:

Since the goal to submit 100% of Form B's to the curriculum committee for those courses which have been created or redesigned in the EC-6 and 4-8 teacher preparation programs was not met, we plan to complete the redesign and submit all remaining forms in 2016-2017 to take effect in the 2017-2018 curriculum cycle.

#### Results Description:

The redesign of the Undergraduate Teacher Certification programs include redesigning of new courses to address CAEP and TEA standards. This redesign continues. The READ 3315 is a newly designed course that is being offered in fall 2017. Other redesign courses, ECHE 3325 and SPED 3313 will begin in Spring.

Graduate course redesign to meet Literacy Standards began summer 2017.

#### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

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## Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

### Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

New Plan for Continuous Improvement was not created in 2015-2016 cycle.

### Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

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## Strategic Plan

**Closing Summary:**

The College of Education will finalize and implement a new Strategic Plan in the 2017-2018 AY. The Department of Language, Literacy, and Special Populations is developing a unit Strategic Plan that will support the 9 Goals established by the College Strategic Planning Team. This new plan will be tracked within the Campus Labs system, allowing the department to monitor progress on the plan. To that end, the Goals and Objectives in the Campus Labs system will be modified to reflect the new LLSP Goals and Objectives. The new Strategic Plan will be the catalyst for continuous improvement.

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