

Georgia Southern University

## Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

---

Georgia International Conference on  
Information Literacy

---

Oct 1st, 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

### IC @ GHC: Assessing Information Literacy Skills across the Curriculum and on a Budget

Cindy Wheeler

*Georgia Highlands College, Rome, GA*

Teresa Hutchins

*Georgia Highlands College, Cartersville, GA*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gaintlit>



Part of the [Curriculum and Instruction Commons](#), and the [Information Literacy Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Wheeler, Cindy and Hutchins, Teresa, "IC @ GHC: Assessing Information Literacy Skills across the Curriculum and on a Budget" (2010). *Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy*. 2. <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/gaintlit/2010/2010/2>

This presentation (open access) is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences & Events at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu).

# IC @ GHC: Assessing Information Literacy Skills Across the Curriculum and On a Budget



INFORMATION  
COMPETENCY

## Presenters:

- Cindy Wheeler, Assistant Professor of English
- Teresa Hutchins, Assistant Professor of Political Science



**“IC @ GHC”**



## Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for Georgia Highlands College

- Concern: Small budget
- A five year plan which fulfills a need among students
- Part of SACS process

# ***DISCOVERING STUDENT NEEDS***

- Survey taken during the 2005-2006 academic year to assess perceived student needs
- The perceived academic needs from survey were the basis for the discussion of a QEP topic
- There were ten potential QEP topics, including writing skills, information literacy, and learning communities

# ***VALIDATION OF PERCEIVED NEEDS: FACULTY SURVEY RESULTS***

Faculty felt that:

- 16% students have adequate IC skills
- 47% students need help determining nature and extent of information needed (SLO #1)
- 57% - students cannot accurately evaluate credibility (SLO #3)
- 50% - students understand importance of citation (SLO #4)
- 18% - students use citations when needed (SLO #4)

# ***QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN (QEP)***

Increase the Information Competency (IC) skills of students at Georgia Highlands College (GHC)

Mission Statement:

The mission of the GHC Information Competency Program is to create a curriculum-wide culture of information competency among students, demonstrated through writing or other modes of communication.

# ***STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES***

- determine the nature and extent of information needed
- access the needed information effectively and efficiently
- evaluate information and its sources critically
- demonstrate IC through writing or other modes of communication

\*Adopted from the Association of Colleges and Research Libraries Standards

# ***ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT***



## **Two Year College**

- Tight Budget Restrictions
- Multiple Campuses
- Rapidly Increasing Enrollment

## **Student Population**

- Traditional and Non-traditional students
- High attrition rate
- Substantial Learning Support Contingent



# ***AVOID BUDGET BUSTERS***

- Encourage intrinsic versus extrinsic rewards
- Take advantage of school-sponsored events
- Find small ways to get everyone involved with minimal cost
- Select promotional items that can be distributed on a wide scale for minimum cost

# **FIRST YEAR BUDGET:**

## Georgia Highlands College QEP Budget 2007-08

Library Resources		\$2,000
Books, hard copy materials	1,000	
Presentation Software	1,000	
Training		2,000
IC Consultants/trainers	1,000	
Assessment/In-Service speakers	500	
Training materials	500	
Professional development		3,000
SACS QEP conference, July 07	1,000	
Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, October 07	2,000	
Supplies & support materials		1,000
Development new instructional materials	400	
Assessment forms printing	200	
Supplies & printed materials	400	
QEP Assessment coordinator reassigned time		2,000
Total QEP budget		\$10,000
Additional QEP Leadership Support from redirected funds:		
QEP Committee Chair 2 course reassigned time	\$4,000	
GRAND TOTAL		\$14,000

# ***ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES***

- Create Assessment Tools which assess the four SLOs
- Create Assessment Tools which allow flexibility in IC instruction
- Assess value added in both IC application and knowledge
- Create Assessment Tools which are easy to administer and analyze

# ***IC @ GHC ASSESSMENT PLAN***

## **• College-wide Assessment**

- Created own instrument (Handout 1)
- Saved money
- Tailored to GHC needs

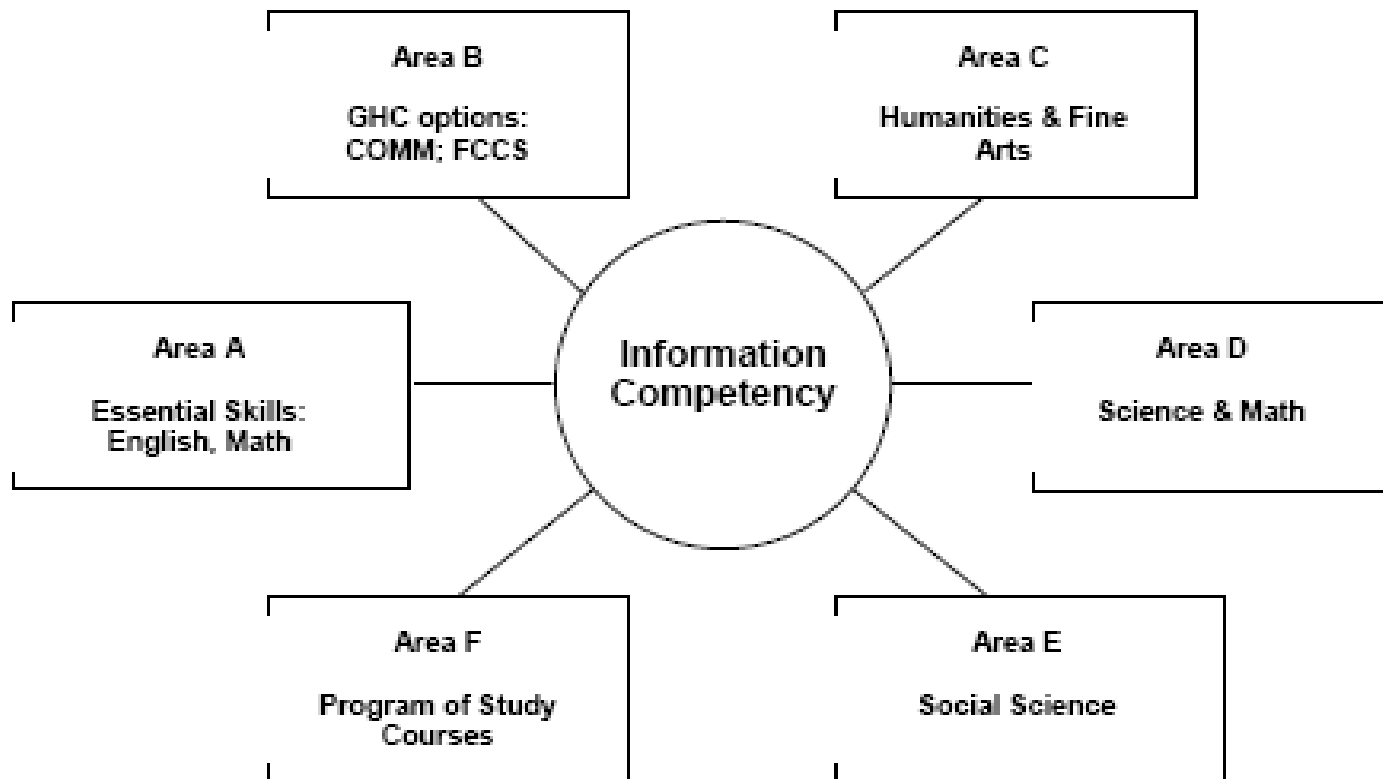
## **• Course Specific Assessment**

- Faculty buy-in is vital
- Implemented across the core on a year by year basis (Handout 2)

# ***COLLEGE-WIDE ASSESSMENT***

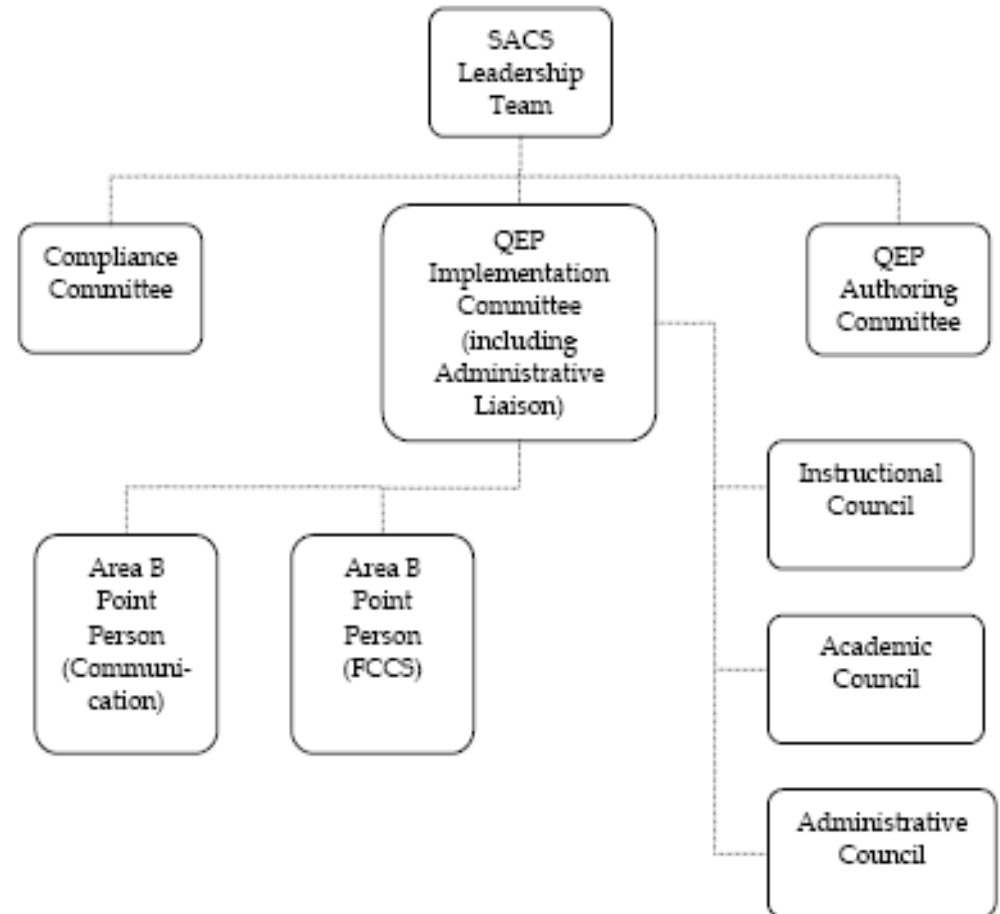
- IC assessment completed on incoming first-year students
- IC assessment completed on students in a structured sample of second year classes
- Goal is to achieve a 5% increase annually in IC assessment scores of second year students over the five year period
- Data is collected college-wide, by individual campus, and by individual academic division

# ***IMPLEMENTATION PLAN***



# LEADERSHIP PLAN

GHC QEP Organizational Chart



# ***COURSE SPECIFIC WAYS TO ASSESS IC***

- Getting faculty of all disciplines to buy into IC
  - Encouraging creativity
  - Tailoring current assignments/projects to fit IC
  - Ending up with unique ways of assessing IC



# ***BIOLOGY***

- IC Project
- Grading Rubrics
- Results

# ***CHEMISTRY***

- IC Project
- Grading Rubrics

# Communication

- Pre-/Post-tests
- Rubric
- Results

# ***INSTITUTIONAL DATA RESULTS***

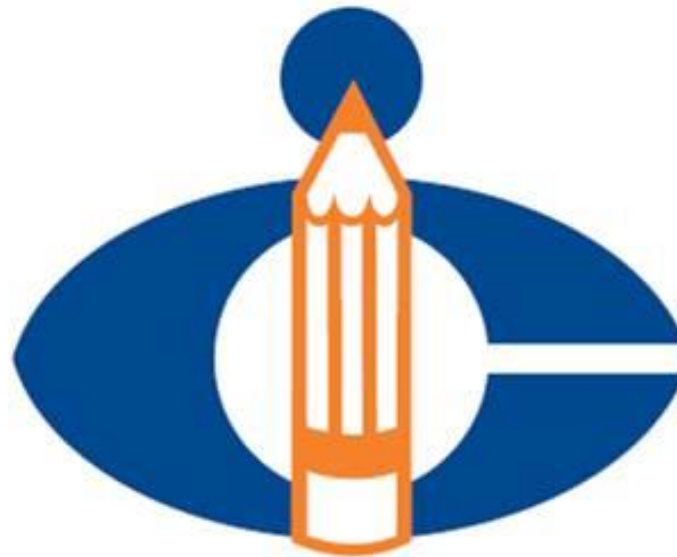
- Handout 3

# ***PROMOTIONAL STRATEGIES***

Brand Recognition = “this must be important!”

- Logo use on syllabi, assignments
- Posters placed strategically on campuses
- Pencils and bookmarks distributed and continually used for in-class assignments
- Website





INFORMATION  
COMPETENCY

*To Learn More About IC @ GHC*

**Visit our Website at [www.highlands.edu/ic](http://www.highlands.edu/ic)**

# ***PROMOTIONAL STRATEGIES***

- Games/Booths at campus events
- Video
- Logo Contest
- Song Contest
- Library Scavenger Hunt
- Faculty support





# ***FACULTY TRAINING***

- Area Coordinator Training- October
  - Area coordinators lead creation of assessment instruments for the next year's implementation
  - stipend
- Faculty Workshops- January
  - guest speakers
  - refreshments

# ***LESSONS LEARNED: ASSESSMENT***

- **Pre/Post Test Modifications**
  - Analyze results per question
  - High pre-test scores
- **Rubric**
  - Possibly greater breakdown into additional sub-categories for more precise evaluation of each SLO
- **Data Collection:**
  - Reduce paperwork
  - Use electronic transfer of assessment

# ***FUTURE PLANS AND CHALLENGES***

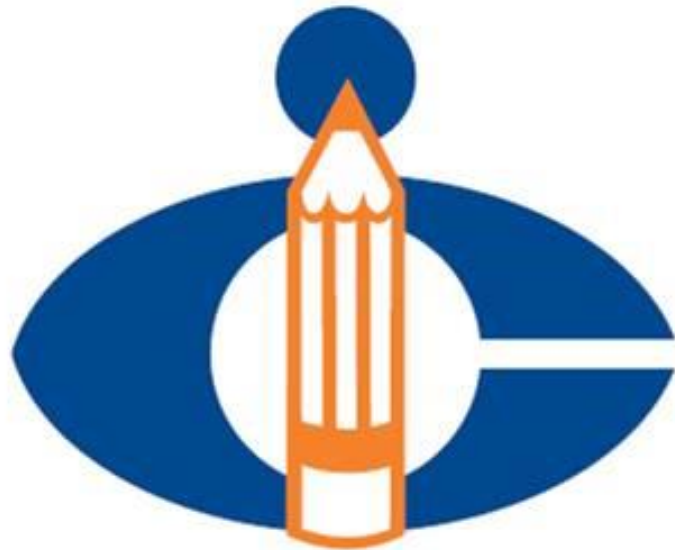
---

- Looking beyond the five-year plan
- Keeping the program fresh
- Managing the increased amount of assessment data
- Adjusting budget for increased costs and incentives

# ***AUDIENCE DISCUSSION***

What kinds of IC  
projects could you  
create?

Questions?



INFORMATION  
COMPETENCY

