

## QUEST Highlights Series

The series is designed to share information about data, evaluation, and assessment across the College, and help us answer the questions:

- What data do we collect or have access to that can help us make decisions about how to guide our work?
- How can/do we use that data to guide our work?

### Using Assessment to Guide Assessment Work: The Spring 2022 Culture of Assessment Survey

To kick off the QUEST Highlights series, we thought we would share some data we've collected, and how we (the Office of Institutional Effectiveness) have used that data to help drive our work.

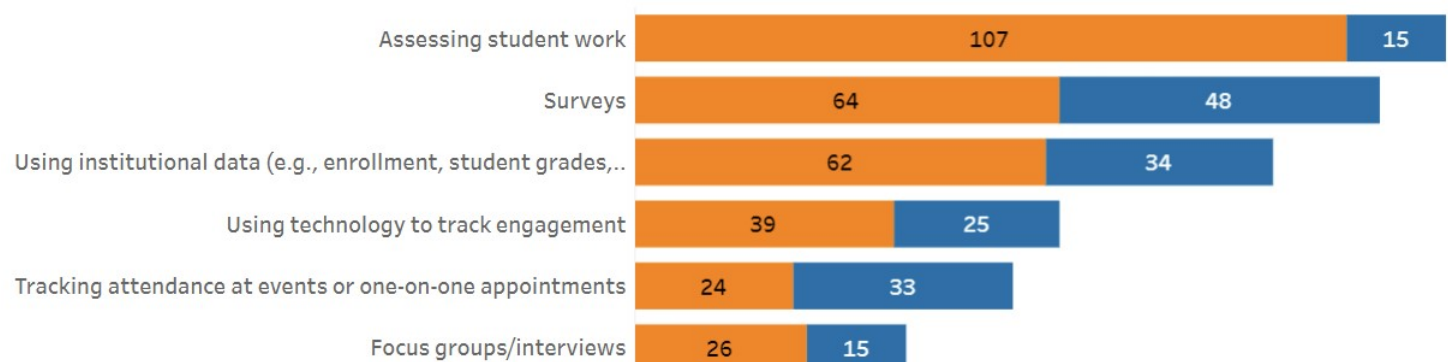
In March 2022, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and the Office of Academic Affairs collaborated to develop and distribute a Culture of Assessment Survey, in which we asked people to talk about their opinions and perceptions of assessment at KCC, their comfort in conducting assessment, and their interest in learning more about assessment.

You can [take a look at the full set of results here](#), but we want to share a few of our main takeaways.

Here's what we learned...

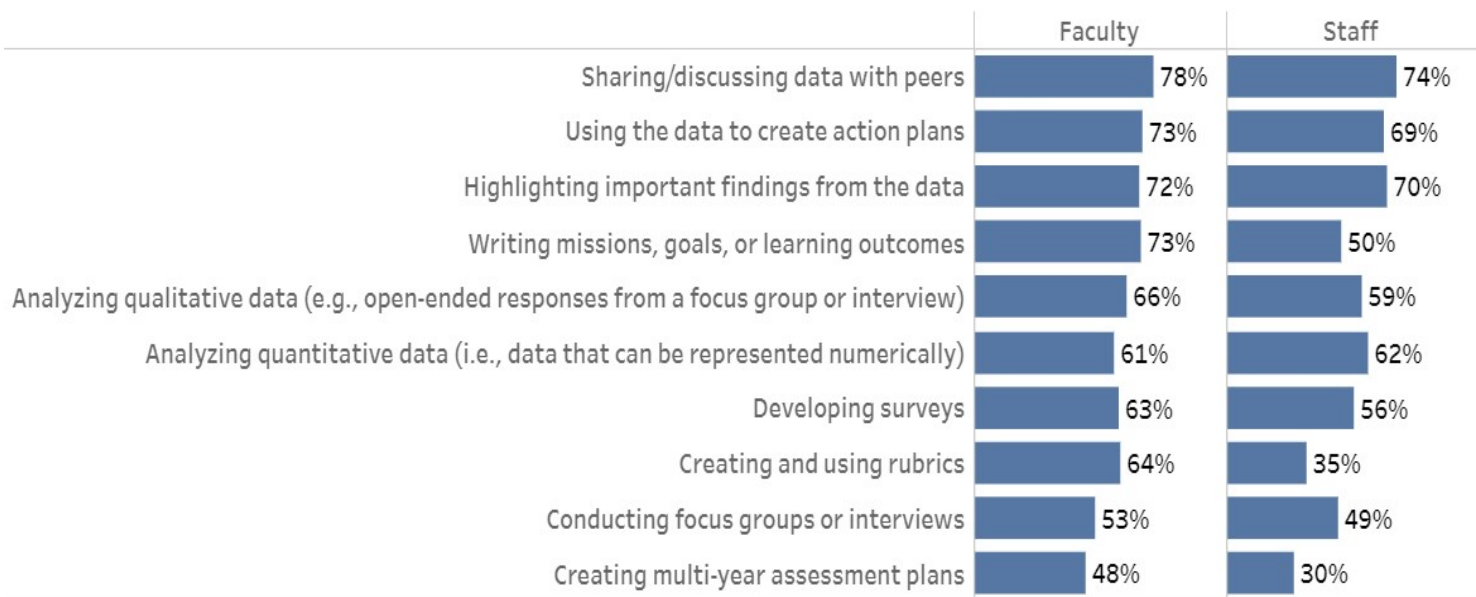
#### 1. Faculty and Staff at KCC Focus a LOT on Students

The two most commonly-used assessment tools were assessing student work and surveys (presumably of students). This shows that when we conduct assessment at KCC, we are interested in understanding the knowledge and experiences of the students themselves.



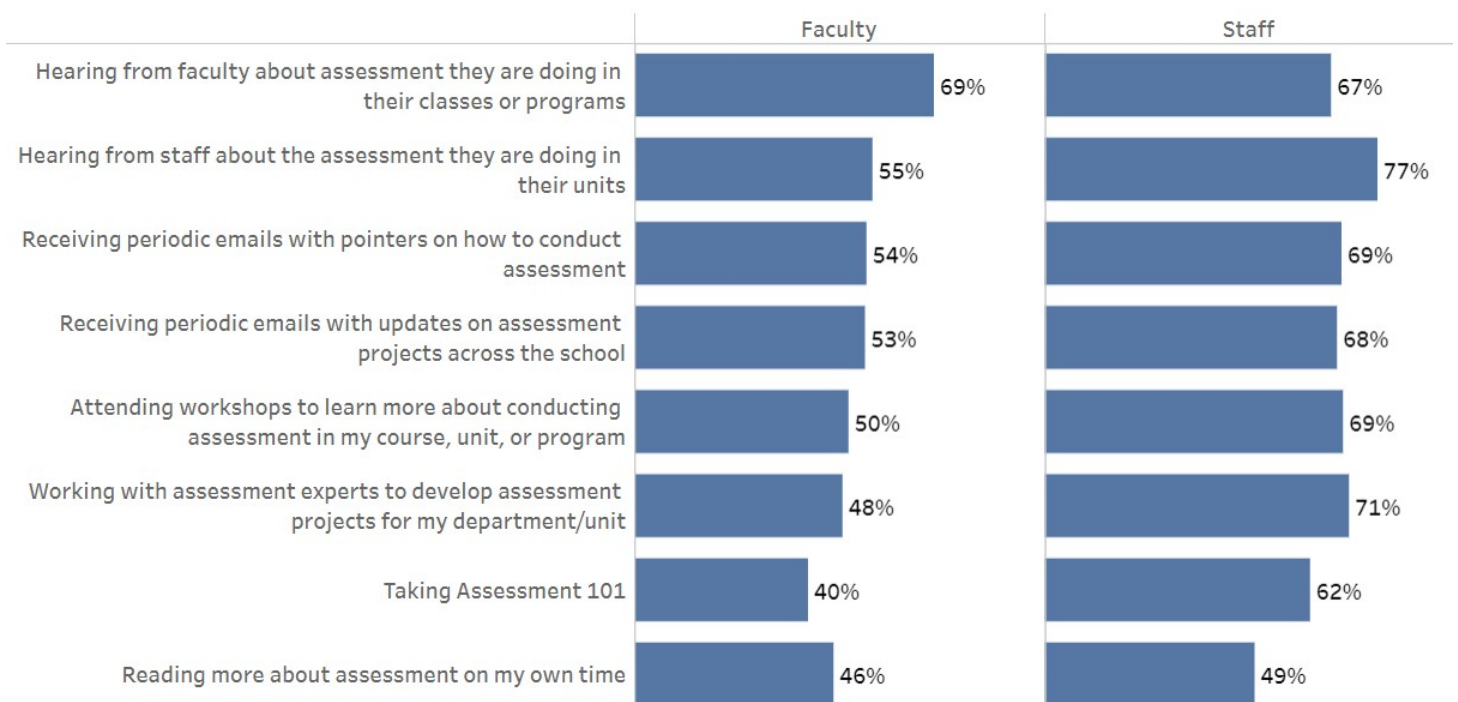
## 2. We don't just collect data, we want to understand it and talk about it.

When asked how comfortable they were with various assessment techniques, the two aspects that people reported feeling most comfortable with (regardless of whether they were Faculty or Staff) was a) sharing/discussing data with peers and b) highlighting important findings from the data.



## 3. We want to learn more from each other!

Staff members especially reported being very interested in learning more about assessment: from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, from their fellow Staff members, and from Faculty! Overall, the method of learning that interested the largest number of people was just hearing what other faculty and staff are doing.



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## How we've used this data:

Anyone who has been in a room with us for more than 5 minutes knows what we're going to say next: the best data is *used* data. So, how have we used this data to help drive our work?

In the year since the Culture of Assessment survey went out, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness has been hard at work meeting with AES units and learning about what work goes on in each office, and what data they collect and how they use it. The Culture of Assessment survey was a fantastic jumping off point for all these conversations.

For example, we know that surveys are very popular. We've been using that knowledge to make sure that we ask people about what surveys they are conducting. On the other hand, we see that not many respondents reported tracking attendance data. This is a very important piece of data to collect, and so we can encourage offices and departments to track this data and help guide them through what they can use the data for.

We also learned that people want to learn from *each other*! So, one of the best things we can do is create opportunities for people to talk about what data they are collecting and what they're doing with it. This led us to create **Assessment Week**: A whole week of opportunities to share the questions we have about our work, the data we collect to answer those questions, and what we learn from it.

## What's coming next:

Well, the next step is to see whether the College's culture around assessment changes over time! We'll administer the survey again to see whether peoples' attitudes and comfort around assessment have changed. We'll also use some of our conversations to revise the survey instrument to be more informative.

## What do you think?

Do you have suggestions for us on how we can use the data, or on other data we might want to collect? Let us know!

## Connect with us!

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