



Assessment in Higher Education Conference 2025

*Translating Assessment to
Success*

April 14 - 16, 2025
Hilton UF Conference Center

Keynote Speaker



Allison Crume, Ph.D

***Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Associate Vice President
for Student Success, University of South Florida***

Allison Crume was appointed Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Associate Vice President for Student Success at the University of South Florida in August 2020. She is responsible for coordinating the development and delivery of a high-quality undergraduate student experience across all campuses. Dr. Crume serves as the principal administrator of undergraduate academic programs and support services.

Prior to joining the University of South Florida, Dr. Crume served in multiple administrative roles including Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Florida State University. She also worked for the Board of Governors, State University System of Florida in academic and student affairs. Dr. Crume started her career in education as a high school history teacher in Roberta, Georgia.

Her research interests include student success, women in higher education, accessibility, and campus governance.

Monday, April 14, 2025

REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN OPEN 7:30 am

Hilton Lobby

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY 8:30 to 9:30 am

Hilton Ballroom

CONFERENCE OPENING 9:30 am

- Introduction by Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa
- Welcome remarks from Dr. Kent Fuchs, Interim President, University of Florida

Hilton Ballroom

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 9:45 am

Dr. Allison Crume, Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Associate Vice President for Student Success, University of South Florida

Hilton Ballroom

FEATURED SESSION 10:40 am

Hilton Ballroom

From Compliance to Coherence: Aligning Assessment with Student Success for Meaningful Impact with Dr. Will Miller, Associate Vice President for Continuous Improvement and Institutional Performance, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Assessment in higher education should do more than satisfy accreditation requirements—it should be a catalyst for student success. This session explores how institutions can create an assessment framework that aligns programmatic assessment with meaningful improvements in student learning.

LIGHTNING/PECHA KUCHA TALKS 11:35 am

Hilton Ballroom

Leveraging NaviGator AI for Ethical Reflection in Dental Education with Dr. Carrie Wells and Dr. Ana Dias Ribeiro, College of Dentistry, University of Florida

This study investigates the use of NaviGator AI to enhance dental students' comprehension and application of ethical principles by conducting virtual interviews about their clinical experiences. By integrating AI to guide students in writing reflective essays on ethical dilemmas, the research aims to improve understanding of core dental ethics aligned with accreditation standards.

Monday, April 14, 2025 (Continued)

LIGHTNING/PECHA KUCHA TALKS 11:35 am

Hilton Ballroom

AI-Powered Assessments: Creating Multiple Choice Magic with Best Practices with Dr. Michael Barber, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Florida

This presentation will demonstrate how to create MCQs with AI while adhering to best practices for creating MCQs. MCQs remain a staple in higher education, as they offer a convenient and efficient way to gauge student understanding. However, crafting effective MCQs and evaluating their quality and accuracy can be a time-consuming and labor-intensive process. This presentation will show how to use best practices for MCQs as rules when creating them using AI.

NETWORKING LUNCH 12:00 to 1:15 pm

Hilton Ballroom

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1:30 to 2:15 pm

Opening the Loop: Expanding Stakeholder Involvement in Academic Assessment with Dr. Tara Oviedo, Valarie Kite, Joshua Funderburke, Savannah College of Art and Design

Hilton Ballroom

This presentation explores innovative approaches to broaden the scope of academic assessment beyond traditional faculty evaluations. While capstone course assessments remain a cornerstone of degree program evaluation, we introduce the concept of "opening the loop" to incorporate diverse perspectives and enhance the relevance and effectiveness of academic assessment.

University of Florida Doctor of Physical Therapy Program Competency-Based Assessment: Curricular Infusion—Determining Clinical Education Experience Readiness with Dr. Gina Maria Musolino, Dr. Shakeel Ahmed, and Dr. Mark D. Bishop, University of Florida

Dogwood

The UF Doctor of Physical Therapy Program (UFDPT) builds from foundational courses and community engagement experiences leading to integrated and applied learning, further synthesized through didactic and real-world case applications, part and full-time Clinical Education Experiences (CE).

Breakout sessions continue on the next page

Monday, April 14, 2025 (Continued)

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1:30 to 2:15 pm

Hawthorne

How to Meet the Gold Standard with Programmatic Assessment!

with Ms. Carolyn Beamer, University of West Florida

This presentation explores a structured, data-driven approach to evaluating student learning outcomes through a formalized review process. We will discuss the key components of programmatic assessment, including data collection, intervention strategies, reassessment cycles, and rubric-based evaluation.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2:20 to 3:15 pm

A Quest for Insight: Approaches to Engagement in General

Education Assessment with Dr. David M. Miller, Dr. Selman Hershfield, Dr. John Krigbaum, Dr. Lissette Tolentino, and Ms. Kendall Kroger, University of Florida

Hilton Ballroom

This session aims to provide an opportunity for discussion on a unique and innovative approach to enhancing general education assessment through the University of Florida (UF) Quest program, which supports first-time-in-college students. The discussion will cover UF Quest program's objectives, assessment processes, how faculty assess student learning to identify gaps and improve instruction, and how this information is used at the institutional level.

Using AI to Level the Playing Field in Assessment and

Accreditation with Dr. J.D. Mosley-Matchett, InforMaven.AI; Dr. Glenn Phillips, Watermark; Dr. Claire Brady, Glass Half Full Consulting; and David DiSabito, Western New England University

Dogwood

This panel explores how Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is revolutionizing assessment and accreditation in higher education. Featuring experts in AI tools, institutional assessment, and student affairs, the session will showcase how GenAI improves equity, efficiency, and personalization in evaluating student and institutional outcomes.

Breakout sessions continue on the next page

Monday, April 14, 2025 (Continued)

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2:20 to 3:15 pm

Hawthorne

Implementing Practical and Effective Doctoral Assessment with Dr. Andrea Barra, Emory University

This session will present several foundational principles for doing better, authentic PhD assessment utilizing common doctoral program data regardless of discipline, gleaned from individual consultations with nearly forty different programs. Participants will leave with practical tips for working with their programs to answer the questions that really matter and make improvements for student success.

COFFEE BREAK 3:15 to 3:35 pm

Hilton Lobby

FEATURED ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION 3:40 to 4:40 pm Hilton Ballroom

Building a Collaborative Framework for General Education Assessment with Dr. Annabelle Conroy and Dr. Amanda Pacheco, University of Central Florida

Join us for a roundtable discussion on creating an institution-wide assessment process that promotes collaboration, transforming assessment from a compliance exercise into a community-driven process. We'll share our journey in the General Education Program, bringing together more than 300 faculty members each semester. This includes highlighting our successes, addressing challenges, and showcasing innovative strategies designed to overcome complex barriers, such as fostering faculty trust, ensuring data integrity, and navigating the tension between standardization and academic freedom.

DISCUSSION AND CLOSING REMARKS 4:40 to 5 pm

Hilton Ballroom

Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa, University of Florida

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN OPEN	7:30 am	Hilton Lobby
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY	8:30 to 9:30 am	Hilton Ballroom
OPENING REMARKS	9:30 am	Hilton Ballroom
Introduction by Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa		
FEATURED SESSION	9:45 to 10:20 am	Hilton Ballroom
Value of Student Life Data in Predicting Retention with Dr. Shaun Boren and Ellu Li, University of Florida		
Learn how we supplemented typical academic variables to evaluate the degree to which several student life variables add value in a machine learning model predicting first-year retention, including how we assembled our dataset, the models we used, and how to understand the output.		
BREAKOUT SESSIONS	10:20 to 11:05 am	
<i>Alignment for Impact: Ensuring the Utility of Assessment Results</i> with Dr. Marshall Haning, Associate Dean, College of the Arts, University of Florida		Hilton Ballroom
In this session, we will investigate the importance of investigating the alignment of assessment tools and strategies at various levels of instruction. Attendees will share their own experiences and strategies with assessment alignment and how the approaches discussed in the session can be applied to their own contexts.		
<i>Insight to Impact: Student Success Through Data-Informed Decision Making</i> with Brandy Barksdale and Dr. Amy Buechler-Steubing, University of Texas-San Antonio		Dogwood
This conference session will explore the methodologies, tools, and best practices for leveraging data to inform and improve student success programs. By examining case studies and practical applications, attendees will gain insights into how data can be used to tailor interventions, allocate resources effectively, and ultimately foster a more supportive and successful learning environment.		

Breakout sessions continue on the next page

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 (Continued)

Utilizing BI Tools for Change with Mr. Nico Mora, Lastinger
Center for Learning, University of Florida

Hawthorne

This presentation will demonstrate the transformative impact of business intelligence tools, such as Microsoft Power BI. Attendees will gain valuable insights into leveraging data to drive innovation and work towards the best outcomes for all students.

COFFEE BREAK 11:05 to 11:20 am

Hilton Lobby

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 11:20 to 12:15 pm

Understanding Data – and Translating Information into Success with Dr. Toby Shorey, Dr. Shaun Boren, and Mr. Joe Uong, University of Florida

Hilton Ballroom

This panel will explore our roles in shaping the story around data we produce and consume in our efforts to improve student success. The presenters come from diverse parts of campus (a college, the Office of Student Life, and the Provost's Office). Together, we look at best practices in data acquisition, knowing what information means, and helping decision-makers parse the information correctly to inform decision-making.

Enhancing Faculty Engagement in Programmatic Assessment with Sandra Taylor, University of West Florida

Dogwood

This presentation will explore how the most effective professional development structures are those that respect faculty expertise, align with their values, and support their professional growth in meaningful ways. This approach not only encourages faculty engagement with assessment but also contributes to a more collaborative improvement focused institutional culture.

Gator Ready: Assessing Career Competency Development Through Experiential Learning with Ms. Catherine Coe, Warrington College of Business, University of Florida

Hawthorne

Discover innovative strategies for scaling assessment at the UF Warrington College of Business. This session will highlight designing robust frameworks, integrating technology, and maintaining assessment integrity. Gain practical insights from experts and case studies to enhance your own programs.

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 (Continued)

NETWORKING LUNCH 12:15 to 1:30 pm Hilton Ballroom

LIGHTNING/PECHA KUCHA TALKS 1:30 to 2:15 pm Hilton Ballroom

From Rubric to Results: Transforming Program Assessment Through Canvas Integration with Dr. Devon Cadwell Bazata, University of Central Florida

This session explores an innovative approach to program assessment that seamlessly integrates VALUE Rubric criterion with Canvas LMS to create a comprehensive, data-driven assessment framework. The presentation showcases how this integrated approach streamlines data collection, facilitates cross-program assessment, and drives curriculum improvement.

Simplifying Data for Discernment with Dr. Robert G. Lee, Southeastern Theological Baptist University

Our institution has developed a home-grown model for pulling artifacts, empowering program coordinators, and presenting results to administration. Key to this process is a simple and readable form which displays each program outcomes over a three-year period. Our hope is that simple information is usable information, and the summary sheets we have developed are designed to walk new program coordinators through the assessment process.

Evaluative Thinking to Achieve Assessment's Goals with Dr. Rebecca Gibbons, University of South Florida

This session seeks to bridge the gap between the languages and disciplines of evaluation and assessment in a way that produces meaningful connections and seeking to achieve the best of both worlds in assessment practice. The model of presentation will include straightforward definitions of terms and clear descriptions of complex theory that bring the concepts to a practical level, preparing assessment professionals to begin their own exploration of these fields while also having key strategies to utilize at their own institutions or within their own programs.

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 (Continued)

REFLECTION AND RECOGNITION 2:20 to 3:45 pm

Hilton Ballroom

A moment to pause, reflect, and honor assessment efforts and discuss progress and challenges in assessment.

FEATURED SESSION 3:45 to 4:30 pm

Hilton Ballroom

Assessment for Learning: Reconceptualizing Assessment to Support Student Success with Dr. Marshall Haning, Associate Dean, College of the Arts, University of Florida

In this session, we will focus on the concept of assessment for learning (which encompasses but goes beyond the concept of formative assessment) as an alternative approach to leverage assessment to support student growth. Strategies include disconnecting assessment from grading, involving students in the development of assessments, and modeling assessment strategies in low-stakes scenarios. Attendees will have the opportunity to brainstorm ways in which they can implement assessment for learning in their own contexts, and will further discuss ways in which they might align these strategies with their existing strategies for assessment of learning.

CLOSING REMARKS 4:30 to 5 pm

Hilton Ballroom

Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa, University of Florida

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN OPEN	7:30 am	Hilton Lobby
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY	8:30 to 9:30 am	Hilton Ballroom
OPENING REMARKS	9:30 to 9:40 am	Hilton Ballroom
Introduction by Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa		
FEATURED SESSION	9:40 to 10:15 am	Hilton Ballroom
<i>Scaling Smart: Innovative Assessment Strategies for Micro-Credential Success</i> with Dr. Cathy Cavanaugh and Dr. Taylor Bainter, Lastinger Center for Learning, University of Florida As micro-credential programs soar in popularity, educators and institutions are confronted with the challenge of scaling assessments without compromising on rigor or the depth of learning outcomes. In this session, we'll dive into a range of innovative approaches to scaling assessments—from cutting-edge automated tools to collaborative peer and self-assessment strategies—exploring how each can help sustain quality while meeting the growing demand for personalized, flexible learning.		
FEATURED SESSION	10:15 to 11 am	Hilton Ballroom
<i>Saving Time, Empowering Impact: Florida Cooperative Extension Vision for Modernization</i> with Dr. Christian Christiansen, UF/IFAS Extension, University of Florida This session highlights Florida Cooperative Extension's (FCE) transformative journey to modernize data collection, analysis, and reporting methodologies. Grounded in FCE's mission to foster healthy people, resilient environments, and strong economies, the initiative leverages advanced technologies to reduce administrative burdens and provide time back to faculty and staff.		

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

(Continued)

FEATURED SESSION 11:00 to 11:45 am

Hilton Ballroom

Closing the Assessment Loop with AI and Learning Analytics
with Dr. Aaron Thomas, Enterprise Analytics, University of Florida

UF Information Technology has developed a tool that brings together Canvas data, institutional data, and student feedback as a plugin accessible from the instructor's Canvas page. The tool provides a day by day analytic that allows the instructor to evaluate differences between current and historical performance trends. In addition, the tool leverages Large Language Models (LLMs) to summarize student feedback and allows the instructor to leverage student feedback to provide personalized recommendations for course strategies and improvements.

FINAL REMARKS AND DISCUSSION 11:45 am to 12 pm

Hilton Ballroom

Final remarks by Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa

*Thank you to everyone who
participated in UF's AHEC 2025!*