



Advocates for Scholarly Teaching (AST)

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND OPERATION

- The authorizing body of the AST is the Executive Vice President and Provost.
- The AST is a standing committee whose essential role is advocacy, awareness and event sponsoring. The scope of the work of this committee directly impacts the NMSU-Las Cruces campus.
- As stated in the AST Mission and Goals, the purpose of the committee is to actively support NMSU in increasing and documenting institutional effectiveness by encouraging, creating and sustaining an environment that focuses on the continuous improvement of student learning through scholarly teaching and course-level assessment by
 1. Increasing faculty's awareness of the professional and personal benefits of course-level assessment and scholarly teaching
 2. Promoting faculty development in course-level learning outcomes assessment
 3. Promoting faculty engagement in scholarly teaching
 4. Increasing student learning through greater application of scholarly teaching
- Voting members of the AST are appointed to three-year terms by the Executive Vice President and Provost. Terms are staggered and are renewable as approved by committee recommendation. The committee consists of a total of 18 (18) voting members: two from each academic college (four from the College of Arts & Sciences); two from the library; one representative from the Graduate Council (term to be determined by the Graduate Council); and a graduate student (term of appointment is one year, renewable). The Director of Assessment and the Dean of the Graduate School are ex-officio (non-voting) members. Proxy voting is allowed, and a quorum is defined as 40% of voting members.
- The AST chair is nominated by the outgoing chair, confirmed by committee member vote, and approved by the Executive Vice President and Provost. The chair serves a one-year renewable term, and will submit an annual report to the Director of Assessment detailing the year's activities with a due date of June 30.
- The Office of Institutional Analysis will provide administrative support.
- The Director of Assessment will provide guidance to the committee.