Contextualizing Assessment for Learning to Prepare Students for Success in the 21st Century Global Economy

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Abstract
Tomorrow’s quality of life will depend on the ability of today’s graduates to address 21st century technical challenges. As technical professionals and educators, the stakes are high. This century’s technology-driven economy and change-driven society needs a nimble workforce: creative problem solvers who can cross cultural, linguistic, disciplinary and geopolitical boundaries with confidence. Local, national and global contexts are rarely considered in the design of program-level assessment plans. This omission leads to common pitfalls such as the lack of meaningful questions, unfocused data collection, lack of currency and relevancy in curricular content and pedagogy, and lack of faculty ownership. This talk will underscore the importance of capturing, articulating and disseminating your program’s unique context in establishing sustainable assessment processes and practices.

Dr. Ashley Ater Kranov is ABET’s Managing Director of Professional Services. Her department is responsible for ensuring the quality training of program evaluators, partnering with faculty and industry to conduct robust technical education research, and providing educational opportunities on sustainable assessment processes for program continual improvement worldwide.

She is Principal Investigator of an NSF-sponsored validity study of her direct method for teaching and measuring the ABET professional skills and is adjunct associate professor in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Washington State University.

During her more than 21 years as a higher education administrator and professional educator, Dr. Ater Kranov has led university-wide assessment initiatives, coordinated regional and professional accreditation activities, taught at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and conducted faculty development workshops on teaching and assessment worldwide.

This seminar is co-sponsored by the Academy of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineers

Refreshments will be served at 1:45 p.m.