

## MARTHA L. A. STASSEN

Office of Academic Planning and Assessment  
232 Whitmore Administration Building  
University of Massachusetts at Amherst  
Amherst, Massachusetts 01003  
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<http://www.umass.edu/oapa/oapa>

### EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Education (Higher Education, Cognate: Social-Psychology)  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, January 1992  
Dissertation: "White Faculty Members' Responses to Racial Diversity at Predominantly White Colleges and Universities"  
B. A. in English, Music Minor (*Cum Laude*)  
Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota, May 1981

### RESEARCH AREAS

Student Learning Assessment; Program, Curricular, and Instructional Assessment and Effectiveness; Diversity-Related Outcomes Assessment.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### Assistant Provost for Assessment and Educational Effectiveness

Office of Academic Planning and Assessment  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
April 2011 to Present

(July 1994-July 1998: **Associate Director**, August 1998-March 2011, **Director of Assessment**)

Developed and manage the institution-wide assessment plan for the University and work with faculty on curricular effectiveness initiatives. Direct a wide range of assessment-related activities including: consulting with faculty on departmentally-based and course-imbedded assessment efforts, evaluating first-year learning communities, advising, and diversity-related curricula; facilitating general education curriculum development, retention and student success analyses. Serve as in-house assessment and evaluation consultant for external grant proposals. Also serve as an instructor in the Higher Education Administration program, teaching a graduate-level course on assessment in higher education and serving on Comprehensive Exam and Dissertation Committees.

#### Co-Principal Investigator, Davis Educational Foundation Grant

*General Education Reform: Moving Toward Integrative Learning and Assessment*  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
May 2010 to present

Direct three year \$275,000 grant to support the implementation of the campus' new General Education upper-division Integrative Experience requirement.

#### President, New England Educational Assessment Network (NEEAN)

May 2007 to Present.  
Program Director (May 2005-2007); Board Member (2003-2005)

Provide leadership and strategic direction for this regional assessment professional organization and serve on the Editorial Board of its *Journal of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness (JAIE)*.

### AWARDS AND HONORS

Distinguished Dissertation of the Year: Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), 1992.  
Award for Best Dissertation of the Year: School of Education, University of Michigan, 1992.  
Award for Best Dissertation of the Year: Higher and Postsecondary Education, University of Michigan, 1992.  
Rackham Dissertation Fellowship: University of Michigan, 1991.

## **Martha L. A. Stassen**

### **REFEREED PUBLICATIONS**

- Barnes, B.J., Williams, E., Stassen, M. (Forthcoming, 2013). "Dissecting Doctoral Advising: A comparison of students' experiences across disciplines." Journal of Further and Higher Education.
- Stassen, M., Herrington, A., & Henderson, L. (2011) "Defining Critical Thinking in Higher Education: Determining Assessment Fit". To Improve the Academy, 30.
- Barnes, B.J., Chard, L., Wolfe, E., Stassen, M., & Williams, E. (2011). "An Evaluation of the Psychometric Properties of the Graduate Advising Survey of Doctoral Students." International Journal of Doctoral Studies, 6.
- Stassen, M. (October 2003). "Student Outcomes: The impact of varying living-learning community models." Research in Higher Education, v.44 (5): 581-613.
- Stassen, M. (1999). "It's Hard Work! Faculty development in a program for first-year students." To Improve the Academy, 18: 254-277.
- Stassen, M. (1995). "White Faculty Members and Racial Diversity: A theory and its implications." The Review of Higher Education, 18 (4): 361-391.

### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

- Stassen, M. L. A., Zúñiga, X., Keehn, M., Mildred, J., DeJong, K., & Varghese, R. (Forthcoming.) "Engagement in Intergroup Dialogue: Listening, Speaking, and Active Thinking." Engaging Race and Gender: Intergroup Dialogues in Higher Education, New York, New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- Allen, W. R., Epps, E. G., Guillory, E., Suh, S. A., Bonous-Hammarth, M., & Stassen, M. (2002). "Outsiders Within: Race, Gender, and Faculty Status in U. S. Higher Education." The Racial Crisis in American Higher Education, Revised Edition. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press.
- Stassen, M., Doherty, K., & Poe, M. (Summer 2001). Course-Based Review and Assessment: Methods for understanding student learning. University of Massachusetts Amherst.  
[http://www.umass.edu/oapa/oapa/publications/online\\_handbooks/course\\_based.pdf](http://www.umass.edu/oapa/oapa/publications/online_handbooks/course_based.pdf)
- Stassen, M., Doherty, K., & Poe, M. (Summer 2001). Program-Based Review and Assessment: Tools and Techniques for Program Improvement. University of Massachusetts Amherst.  
[http://www.umass.edu/oapa/oapa/publications/online\\_handbooks/program\\_based.pdf](http://www.umass.edu/oapa/oapa/publications/online_handbooks/program_based.pdf)
- Stassen, M. & Sorcinelli, M. (February, 2001). "Making Assessment Matter: Effective assessment can indeed inform teaching and learning." NEA Higher Education Advocate, 18 (4): 5-8.

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS (2007-2012)**

- Stassen, M., Brodigan, R., Heineman, W. (December 2011). "What Do You Want? What Have You Got?" Evidence that improves learning." Invited workshop, New England Association for Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Stassen, M. (September 2011). "Using NSSE to Inform Department-Level Improvement." Invited presentation at the Massachusetts Department of Higher education (DHE) AMCOA Conference, Worcester, MA.
- Stassen, M. (August 2011). "Introduction to Assessment." Invited presenter at First Annual Women in Institutional Research and Assessment Conference, Bowdoin, ME.
- Stassen, M. (March 2011). "The Integrative Experience: UMass Amherst." Invited panelist for NEEAN Dialogues in Integrative Learning Conference, Amherst, MA.
- Beaulieu, E., Stassen, M., & Walvoord, B. (December 2010). "Determining the Impact of General Education." Invited panel, New England Association for Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Stassen, M. (December 2008). "Using Assessment to Make General Education More Explicit." Invited panel at the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Stassen, M. (December 2007). "Getting There from Here: Evidence that opens the door to General Education reform." Invited panel at the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

### **INVITED CONSULTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS (2007-2012)**

Franklin Pierce University (Concord, NH); Castleton State College (Castleton, VT); Trinity College (Hartford, CT); Boston University Medical School (Boston, MA); Vermont State College System (Randolph, VT), Suffolk University (Boston, MA); Manchester Community College (Manchester, CT); Simmons College (Boston, MA); Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (North Adams, MA); Duquesne University (Pittsburgh, PA); University System of Georgia (Atlanta, GA).

## **Martha L. A. Stassen**

### **REFEREED PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS (2007-2012)**

- Stassen, M., Henderson, L., & Goodspeed, J. (November 2011). "More Credit, More Work? Assessing the move to 4-credit Gen Ed Courses." Presentation at the Northeastern Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Stassen, M., Herrington, A., & Henderson, L. (November 2010). "Critical Thinking as Student Learning Outcome: What are we assessing?" Paper presented at the Northeastern Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Annual Meeting, Saratoga Springs, NY.
- Stassen, M., Herrington, A., & Henderson, L. (October 2010). "Defining Critical Thinking in Higher Education: Determining Assessment Fit." Paper presented at the Northeastern Educational Research Association (NERA) Annual Meeting, Rocky Hill, CT.
- Stassen, M. & Knoper, R. (February 2009). "Assessing Curricular Practices in General Education." Presentation at the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Meeting, Baltimore, MD.
- Stassen, M., Zuniga, X., & Dejong, K. (November 2008). "Diversity-related Learning Processes and Outcomes: A multi-campus curriculum assessment project." Presentation at the New England Educational Assessment Network (NEEAN) Fall Forum, Worcester, MA.
- Stassen, M. (November 2008). "General Education Curriculum, Teaching, and Assessment: Using multiple forms of evidence." Presentation at the Northeastern Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Annual Meeting, Providence, RI.
- Henderson, L. & Stassen, M. (May 2008). "Graduate Students' Advising Experiences: An Exploration of Multiple Dimensions of a Complex Relationship." Presentation at the Association for Institutional Research (AIR) Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
- Stassen, M. & Knoper, R. (February 2008). "Promoting Diversity-Related Outcomes in General Education." Presentation at the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) meeting, Boston, MA.
- Stassen, M. (November 2007). "Clarifying the IR Role in Supporting Assessment." Table Topic at the Northeastern Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Annual Meeting, New Brunswick, NJ.

### **EDITORIAL WORK (2007-2012)**

Editorial Board Journal of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness (JAIE). (January 2010 to present.)

### **REGIONAL SERVICE (2007-2012)**

President (May 2007 to present), Program Director (May 2005 to 2007), and Board Member (May 2003 to present), New England Educational Assessment Network (NEEAN).

External Program Reviewer, Salem State College, May 2006.

Assessment Standards Reviewer, New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), February 2004.