

ANNY 2018 Election: Candidate Bio and Statement

Mary Lou D'Allegro (Paul Smith's College)

Brief Personal Bio:

Currently, I am the Associate Provost at Paul Smith's College with a rank of Associate Professor. Previously, I was the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Institutional Effectiveness at Siena College. In charge of institutional and academic program assessment for the last 15 years, I have learned so much from faculty and staff. Although, I am the facilitator of assessment programs and systems, I still support all aspects of assessment results. As such, I have revamped the assessment processes at the last two institutions I have worked: Siena College and Paul Smith's College. Not always a particularly pleasant experience, nonetheless, the new processes are much more aligned with the direct assessment of student learning and accreditation standards. Moreover, the new assessment processes are more useful and as well as efficient. Participation in meaningful assessment increased five-fold at Siena College. In part, this is due to several assessment initiatives including faculty training (both the opportunity to be trained and to be the trainer), assessment grant, service recognition, assessment "blasts", and a redesign of the assessment website. At Siena College, we established the "Assessment Academy" a series of videos on various assessment topics, tools, and methodologies. At Paul Smith's College, we are working on designing some "stackable" trainings that would lead to a credential or at least stand-out on the faculty's portfolio. I have also designed several assessment and strategic plan dashboards, KPIs, and scorecards. This includes preemptive discussions with faculty and staff, a design team, pilot implementations, and the use of several feedback mechanisms. With a doctorate in Higher Education, a Master's in Mathematics and another in Industrial Engineering, I teach Operations Management, Testing and Measurement, Research Methods, and Statistics. Both have come in handy regarding the support of assessment initiatives. I have also served as the evaluator for NSF grants.

Statement of Interest:

ANNY is a great organization. Personally, I think it's the best among the regional organizations I have belonged. The networking, available resources, and accessibility of members is unprecedented. I have served as President in various organizations and understand the commitment required. I have been busy in my professional life but am at a point that I can and want to be more active in the professional organizations I belong. I have proven track record as a good facilitator, team player, and someone who can actually persuade others of the benefits that good assessment affords. Along with those attributes is someone who likes to laugh and doesn't take herself too seriously. I know that I have as much to learn and gain from serving as an ANNY Board member as a new member and those members who are fairly new to the world of assessment. I fully understand and am familiar with the amount of time and work that is needed to sustain a successful professional organization. However, this pales in comparison to the reward of meeting and talking to other talented professionals. The newly acquired wisdom and connections are well worth the effort. With this in mind, I accept the role and responsibilities of being a ANNY Board member.