

Have You HEARD?

25 years of assessment workshops celebrated

The entire educational world is buzzing about assessment these days, but Alverno College has been doing it for more than a quarter of a century.

This summer marked the 25th year that educators have traveled from all over the country and the world to

learn about Alverno's experiences with assessment-as-learning.

"When people ask me why nobody has copied Alverno's methods, I tell them that everybody has picked up on assessment, which is a key component of teaching and learning at Alverno," said College President Sister Joel Read. "When we launched our ability-based curriculum in the early 1970s, we

knew that paper-and-pencil tests were not adequate to measure student progress. We developed our

assessment-as-learning methods to enable students to show not only what they know, but what they can do with what they know."

In June, educators from Mexico,

Ireland, South Africa, the Netherlands, Australia, Canada, England, Norway and Hong Kong joined teams from US colleges and universities at Alverno's summer workshops. Three separate tracks were investigated: Teaching for Outcomes, Student Assessment-as-Learning, and Institutional and Program Assessment.



Photo by Lila Aryan

Workshop participants observed an Alverno assessment.