



Outcomes Assessment Update

Center for Institutional Effectiveness Monthly Meeting

November 28, 2007
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Academic Advising Assessment

A preliminary analysis of the discrete-choice questions on the faculty advising survey was presented to the Advising Planning Council at their regular meeting on November 7, and emailed to CIE members. Responses to open-ended questions were divided up among committee members, who will read and classify them prior to the next meeting on December 12, where they will be discussed by the full committee. Shira Jaspen, our student intern from the Psychology Department, will continue to work with me to have a preliminary analysis for the student advising discrete-choice questions prepared for this meeting as well.

Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA)

126 entering first-time, full-time first year students completed the CLA during the extended fall testing window (9/26 – 11/13/2007). 58 Students voluntarily participated, and 68 completed the assessment as a requirement of their FSP. A full report was prepared and provided to CIE members. Planning is underway for the Spring Senior Administration (2/1 – 4/16/2008).

One Question/One Answer

I presented a competitively selected "shortshare" entitled *One Question/One Answer - A Method for Organizing and Encouraging Outcomes Assessment* at the Northeast Association for Institutional Research meetings on November 5 in New Brunswick. Approximately 60 people attended. The PowerPoint and pdf paper are available on the assessment website – <http://www.tcnj.edu/~assess/archives.html> and will be published in the conference proceedings.

Assessment Discussions and Drop-Ins

11/2 New Jersey Course Outcomes Survey (NJ-COS) No one attended this discussion session, perhaps due to the lack of additional advertising. The preparation was useful, and this will be repeated (with additional planning and advertising) in the spring semester.

11/16 Drop-In Only Susan Albertine dropped by.

11/30 CIRP This will be rescheduled, with additional advertisement, for early December, as I will be at a (rescheduled) NJAIR steering committing meeting at Sussex County College on Friday.

Liberal Learning Assessment (beyond the CLA)

FSP 1,325 copies of the revised four page FSP NJCOS were delivered to the Liberal Learning office for distribution to FSP faculty later this week. Pat Donahue will be including a follow-up survey about community engaged learning for sections where it is applicable.

On 11/27 the first of three focus groups this fall exploring the success of the FSP at stimulating intellectual curiosity and preparing incoming first year students for college courses was conducted by Glenn Steinberg (with me as note-taker) in Deb Compte's mid-level writing intensive course, SPA 241/Intro to Lit in Spanish. Two additional focus groups will be held this week, one in Kevin Michel's section of BUS 200/Legal & Regulatory Environment of Business and one in Hibbert Duncan's section of ENG 214/Circuit Analysis Laboratory.

Faculty in all FSP sections received an email from Glenn this week, asking them to assist in the electronic collection of an example of a final piece of writing from all FSP students, which will be used for future assessment projects.

Conferences Attended – North East Association for Institutional Research

The North East Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Annual Meeting was held in New Brunswick November 4 – 6 and many of the sessions I attended were useful for our outcomes assessment efforts. The half-day *Communicating CIRP Results to Your Institution* was more useful for me as a method to understand the linkage between the CIRP Freshman Survey (TFS), Your First College Year (YFCY) and Senior Survey (CSS). I plan to explore using some of the questions as pre-/post-items to determine our efficacy in reaching some of our liberal learning and other institutional goals. The opening Plenary, *Current Accountability Initiatives in Higher Education* with Michael Middaugh, Tony Broh and Jerry Rackoff was very timely, as was the keynote address by Robert Zemsky, *Getting Reform Back on Track: A Not So Modest Proposal*. Many of the workshares and paper presentations had ideas applicable to TCNJ. I was most impressed with Michelle Appel and others Institutional Research from the University of Maryland. They have a great online tool for promoting data-based dialog about the movement of students within and between majors, and the course-outcomes successes of transfer compared to native students which is available for Department Chairs, Deans and Advising Offices at select community colleges. It was made in-house, and is cold-fusion on top of an oracle database which gets a feed from SIS. I intend to follow-up with them.

Support of Student Affairs Initiatives

Welcome Week Preliminary analysis was presented to the Committee Chairs (Lynette Harris and Tim Asher) on 11/8. A complete presentation of the highlights will be made to the full Welcome Week Committee on 12/5.

EOF Jason and I met with Jim Boatwright on 11/5 to more completely understand his data needs. A draft "Co-curricular Activities Inventory" was developed in Form Genie and sent to Jim for review - <https://jedi.tcnj.edu/webteam/cgi-bin/formgenie/formgenie.pl?form=22111>. When finalized, it will be used to collect information from all currently enrolled EOF recipients at TCNJ. It will then be modified and used annually by the EOF office to update student records. Additional outcomes data (mostly retention and graduation, for students in EOF and CAS programs) will be provided to Jim in the next few weeks.

Other and Ad-hoc Activities

Data Request Provided cumulative GPA data on students in Secondary Education programs at entry to their sophomore year for the past three semesters to Ruth Palmer. She is pursuing intervention strategies with her department chair for students with less than a 3.00 GPA.

Surveys Provided Form-Genie survey development support to Mary Goldschmidt for a writing program survey, "Faculty Perceptions, Expectations, and Practices" - <https://jedi.tcnj.edu/webteam/cgi-bin/formgenie/formgenie.pl?form=22071> and Diane Gruenberg for a survey of FSP instructors "Faculty Needs Assessment for Writer's Place" - <https://jedi.tcnj.edu/webteam/cgi-bin/formgenie/formgenie.pl?form=21967>.

Bulletin Board With assistance from our student worker, Ashley Pelzer, the bulletin board in the hallway outside room 106 has been transformed! Information on such items as a definition of outcomes assessment, its benefits and resources provided by our office, a graphic describing good assessment, descriptions of opportunities for involvement in assessment activities for faculty, staff and students, and a copy of the TCNJ Assessment Update (published each semester) have been posted. Photos of the board are available through the *Assessment Director* Facebook profile: <http://tcnj.facebook.com/album.php?aid=9764&l=b5700&id=611959068>.