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Assessment

2011

Assessment for Administrative and Student Affairs Units

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WMU ScholarWorks Citation

Allen, Mary J., "Assessment for Administrative and Student Affairs Units" (2011). Assessment in Action Conference. 24.

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Assessment for Administrative and Student Affairs Units

Mary J. Allen, Ph.D.

Assessment is an <u>on-going</u> process designed to <u>monitor</u> and <u>improve</u> the effectiveness of the unit being assessed. Professionals in each unit:

- Develop mission and objectives
- Collect evidence
- Systematically assess the evidence
- Close the loop

Good Assessment

- Answers questions that are worth asking
- Results in reasonably accurate conclusions
- Focuses on the unit's effectiveness
- Is ethical
- Helps staff identify what's working well and what needs more attention
- Is efficient and cost-effective
- Results in incremental improvements

Mission

a holistic vision of the values and philosophy of the unit

The Mission Should:

- Describe the purpose of the unit. What services are provided? To whom?
- Be brief (less than one page).
- Be aligned with the campus mission.
- Be known by the staff.
- Be used by the staff to make decisions and set priorities.

Examples of Mission/Vision/Goals Statements

- 1. Library
- 2. Accounting Office
- 3. Residence Life
- 4. Student Affairs (Oregon State)
- 5. Student Affairs (CSU Fullerton)
- 6. Student Affairs (Ferris State)

Articulating Objectives

- Processes
- Learning Outcomes
- Satisfaction Indicators

Effective Objectives and Outcomes Should Be:

- Consistent with the unit and campus mission.
- Realistic.
- Few in number.
- Assessable.
- Used by staff to set priorities and make decisions.

Examples of Objectives

Consider:

- Your campus-wide learning outcomes, GE learning outcomes, and mission
- ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies
- CAS Learning and Development Outcomes
- AAC&U Essential Learning Outcomes

Examples of ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies

Examples of CAS Learning and Development Outcomes

The AAC&U Essential Learning Outcomes

Campus Examples

- CSU, Fullerton
- Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville

First-Year Experience Outcomes

Assessment Methods: Frequently Used Strategies

- Counts
- Client Satisfaction Measures
- External Evaluation Reports
- Learning Outcomes: direct vs. indirect assessment

Some Ways to Collect Assessment Evidence

Consider disaggregating results.

Staff Training and Support

Campus Examples

- San Jose State University Counseling Center Survey
- Yale Library Focus Group
- Muhlenberg College Napkin Survey
- Holistic Writing Rubric
- Analytic Writing Rubric
- Rubric for CSL Reflection Papers
- Intentional Learning Scoring Rubric
- Student Conduct Essay Rubric
- Intercultural Knowledge and Competence Rubric
- Civic Engagement Rubric
- Teamwork Rubric