

## Assessment Project Report

Department/Program and Degree:	Assessment Office (AO)
Assessment Project Name	Workshop: <i>Examples of Program-Level Assessment of Student Learning</i>
Semester/Yr Data Collected	Fall 08 (workshop offered on October 8, 2008 and again on October 9, 2008)
Program Assessment Coordinator:	
Department Chair:	
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### Executive Summary:

One of the Assessment Office's (AO) goals specified in its mission statement is to educate on how to assess, what to assess, and how to act on the results. To this end, the AO partnered with the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) and conducted the "*Examples of Program-Level Assessment of Student Learning*" workshop on October 8 and again on October 9, 2008. The workshop used real-life examples to demystify assessment; participants listened to a short lecture and engaged in a short activity. The AO presented the "assessment loop," common assessment myths, and available assessment resources available and assessed participants' knowledge of these at the end of the workshop. Two data-collection methods were used: 3-question quiz (direct assessment) and a pen & paper survey (indirect assessment).

Of the 27 participants, 24 completed the quiz and survey. Overall, the results were positive and the AO believes that an examples-based workshop is an effective way to present a big picture perspective of program-level assessment.

Quiz Results: **The criteria for success were met for two of the three learning outcomes.** The results indicated a need to emphasize the steps in the assessment loop. The AO used this information and re-worked the presentation to emphasize the assessment loop by referring to it more frequently and making explicit the connection between the steps in assessment loop and the examples.

Pen & Paper Survey Results: **The criterion for success was not met.** Over 80% of participants rated the presentation, handouts, and overall usefulness as either a "4" or "5." Seventy-seven percent of participants felt the discussion was either a "4" or "5." Since a single participant rated the discussion a "1" no changes to the workshop were made based on this information. The open-ended responses, although interesting and positive, provided no common themes and therefore no actionable information.

### OUTCOME(S) ASSESSED:

- At the end of the workshop, participants can:

- 1) List the steps in an assessment cycle
- 2) Name at least one myth associated with assessment
- 3) Name where assessment resources are located

- Participants will be satisfied with the quality and usefulness of the workshop.

#### 1. Assessment Question(s) and/or Goal(s) of Assessment Activity

*What did the program want to find out?*

- The AO wanted to know if using an examples-based workshop format was an effective method to present an overview of assessment.

**Complete the following grid:**

2. Outcome(s) assessed	3. Method(s) to Gather Evidence	4. Method to Evaluate*	5. Program Size & Sampling Technique	6. Criteria for Success	7. Results**	8. Met/Not met (the criteria for success)
1. Assessment Loop	Quiz: Questions were projected on the screen, answers were written on a 3x5 card and submitted.	The AO graded the answers. To be considered "correct," 4 out of the 6 steps needed to be listed	27 people signed the attendance sheet and 24 completed the workshop assessment. (No sampling)	90%of participants answer question correctly.	83% answered this question correctly.	Not met
2. Assessment Myths	Same as above.	The AO graded the answers. To be considered "correct," at least 1 myth needed to be indentified.	Same as above.	Same as above.	100% answered this question correctly.	Met
3. Assessment Resources	Same as above.	The AO graded the answers. To be considered "correct," at least 1 assessment resource needed to be identified.	Same as above.	Same as above.	100% answered this question correctly.	Met
Quality of workshop	- Paper survey: participants were asked to use a scale where 1=low, 3=medium, and 5=high to rate the presentation, discussion, handouts, and overall usefulness. - Participants submitted to the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) representative.	The CTE compiled the numeric results.	Same as above.	80% of participants rate the 4 areas as a "4" or "5."	% of participants rated the following areas as a "4" or "5": Presentation - 96% Discussion - 77% Handouts - 83% Overall Usefulness to You - 87%	Not met

\*Examples of methods to evaluate evidence: apply a rubric, score a multiple-choice test, external evaluation by national testing agency, analyze interview transcripts, summarize survey responses

\*\*Results are based on both workshops combined.

**9. Conclusions and Discoveries**

- The AO concluded the using real-life examples was an effective method of providing an overview of assessment. However, the AO facilitators realized a need to create a stronger connection between the steps in the assessment loop and the examples.

**10. Distribution and Discussion of Results**

a) *Who distributed the results and who received results?*

The AO distributed the results to its facilitators and posted the results on the website.

b) *How did the distribution take place?*

The AO facilitators received the results through informal discussion while the “general public” viewed a formal report on the AO website.

*c) How and when did the discussion of the results take place?*

Discussion of the results took place in the office after each workshop.

#### 11. **Use of Results/Program Modifications**

Based on the quiz results for October 8<sup>th</sup>, the facilitators modified presentation for the next day. They made a special effort to reinforce the assessment cycle by explicitly pointing out and repeatedly emphasizing the relationship between the steps of the assessment cycle and the examples in the presentation.

Although the AO fell short of meeting the “quality of the workshop” criterion for success, no changes were made. Upon closer analysis of the data, it became apparent a single low response resulted in missing the criterion. Also, the open-ended responses, although interesting and positive, provided no common themes and therefore no actionable information.

#### 12. **Assessment Modifications**

*Do changes in the assessment methodology need to be made?*

At present, the AO is satisfied with the assessment methodology used and does not feel changes need to be made.

#### 13. **Other Important Information**