

Assessment Results & Improvement Plan

Department/Program and Degree:	Assessment Office
Assessment Project Name:	<i>Using Assessment Results: Closing the Loop</i>
Semester/Yr Evidence Collected:	Spring 2010
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Date Submitted:	June 18, 2010

Executive Summary:

As part of the spring 2010 *Making Program Assessment Work for You* workshop series, the Assessment Office (AO) offered a workshop entitled *Using Assessment Results: Closing the Loop* on May 13, 2010. The workshop was advertised as an intermediate level workshop. The workshop provided strategies to identify and use existing artifacts and discussed the benefits of using assignments from a capstone experience. The workshop was assessed using a quiz and a workshop evaluation.

Of the 22 people who attended the workshop, 19 (86%) completed and returned the workshop evaluation.

The learning outcome was met.

Overall, participants were satisfied with the usefulness of the workshop.

1. State the SLO(s) that was Assessed, Targeted, or Studied

At the end of the workshop, participants:

- 1) can discuss how assessment results can be used
- 2) are satisfied with the usefulness of the workshop

2. State the Type(s) of Evidence Gathered

Case study and workshop evaluation

3. State How the Evidence was Interpreted, Evaluated, or Analyzed

The AO student worker compiled the data; Marlene analyzed the data then discussed the results with Monica.

4. State How Many Pieces of Evidence Were Collected

19

5. Summarize the Actual Results

See Attachment A for workshop evaluation.

Case Study:

In groups of 3 or 4, participants analyzed cases then reported findings and learnings to the entire group. All groups were able to discuss the case results and how the results could be used.

Evaluation:

100% of participants indicated the workshop was useful.

85% of participants indicated the workshop changed their understanding of the topic.

The assessment benchmark is 80%.

6. In addition to the actual results, were there additional conclusions or discoveries?

Number of Attendees = 22

Number Registered = 27

Number of Registered "no shows" = 9

Rate of registered attendees = 66%

Number of Walk-Ins = 4

This information is being tracked in order to better plan future workshops.

7. Briefly Describe the Distribution and Discussion of Results

Results were distributed and discussed informally.

8. Use of Results/Program Modifications:

At present the AO is satisfied with the assessment results and no changes are recommended.

9. Reflect on the Assessment Process

10. Other Important Information

Appendix A:
USING ASSESSMENT RESULTS: CLOSING THE LOOP
Workshop Evaluation
N=22

Thank you for making time in your schedule to attend today's workshop. Please take a moment to complete this short evaluation. Your responses will shape future workshops.

1. Please rate the overall usefulness of this workshop. (Check one)

- Useful (100%)
- Not Useful
- Unsure

2. Did this workshop change your understanding of the topic? (Check one)

- Yes (85%)
- No (10%)
- Unsure (5%)

3. What was the most valuable aspect of the workshop? Why? (*Verbatim Responses*)

- *Talking to colleagues about their programs.*
- *Explanations (lecture slides) & exercise/discussion.*
- *"Assessment as improvement". Discussion of case studies.*
- *Application of contents to case studies.*
- *Case studies are helpful to apply our new knowledge of assessment.*
- *Discussion with others*
- *Going over different ways results can be used - this will help me in my own assessment work in my department.*
- *Discussion of typical changes as a result of assessment.*
- *Assessment answers burning questions about how successfully we support student learning.*
- *The discussion of how to make assessment results actionable was the most relevant for the needs of the particular program I am working on.*
- *I like the idea of thinking about assessment as a means of improvement rather than evaluation.*
- *Distinction between assessment for improvement vs. accountability.*
- *Statement of presenter: "Assessment is not about accountability; it is about improvement."*
- *PowerPoint presentation.*
- *How do we implement changes - directly apply for what I'm _____.*
- *Idea to mock results and anticipate next steps.*
- *Each day.*
- *Monica & Marlene*

4. What was the least valuable aspect of the workshop? Why? (*Verbatim Responses*)

- *Perfect! Met the goals.*
- *None - all outstanding.*
- *All was valuable.*

- *Nothing was bad.*
- *None.*
- *The group work - I think it would be quicker to do the activity ourselves & discuss as a group.*
- *Groups of 2 would've worked better than 4 - more chance for richer dialogue.*

5. Reflecting on today's workshop, what did you learn about using assessment results? (*Verbatim Responses*)

- *Having support of faculty & administration who are willing to be involved in the process and are willing to act on it.*
- *I learned that attendees are not necessarily the ones who should be worrying about use - it's those who are not in attendance like administrators who misinterpret results.*
- *Complicated but can be broken down into chunks, small steps.*
- *It doesn't have to be scary! Small-scale assessment and small (cheap) changes can make huge improvements.*
- *Keep it practical.*
- *Bring them to the program level and implement practical action.*
- *There isn't just one way and it is okay to think small and your method will determine how you can use the results.*
- *Assessment to celebrate success. Curriculum Map*
- *Reminded me assessment should be for improvement not just accountability.*
- *How to look at them - ways to make changes, kinds of changes that can be made.*
- *Big picture - burning question idea.*
- *There must be burning questions identified in order to devise an effective assessment tool.*
- *How they can improve progress.*
- *Properly done, it will help us improve our programs.*
- *Not all evidence/results are created equal. Results must be informed by the question being asked.*
- *Biggest obstacle will always be faculty buy-in.*
- *I learned ways to make results actionable.*
- *Was interesting to see why results are often used.*

6. Other constructive feedback? (*Verbatim Responses*)

- *Good tips!*
- *Might be useful to work through a case together as a class before we cut loose and try it on our own.*
- *How about a workshop on assessing affective domain? Easy to assess cognitive and psychomotor but how do you measure change in professional attitude, especially in a professional program.*
- *Workshop series was most excellent -- it brought into clearer focus all of my existing knowledge about program review, assessment, etc. Helps me to be able to help my colleagues. Thank you*
- *None.*
- *Thank you.*
- *Thanks!*

Thank you!