The Starting Point of Program Assessment

Presenters

UNM-Valencia Campus

John Bollweg
Institutional Researcher

Julia Wai-Yin So, Ph.D.

Chair, Social Sciences Division

Jan 13, 2021

Session Objectives

- Challenges in program
 assessment of community
 colleges
- One assessment model used at UNM-Valencia
- Plans for improvement

Challenges in CC's Program Assessment (PA)

- Transient nature of the student body
- Constant change in majors
- Various purposes in PA
- Multiple models in PA

Examples of Program Assessment Models

Examples:

- # of graduates or transfers
- Industry's Examination
- Alumni Surveys
- Employers Surveys
- Capstone Course
- Portfolio Evaluation
- Syllabus Analysis
- Curriculum Mapping

Criminology AA

Fall Semester	# of Cohort in the Program
2016	45
2017	44
2018	40

Distinction between cohort vs. panel

of Students (AY 2016 – 2018)

Years in the Program	2016	2017	2018
1	25	25	19
2	10	9	17
3	4	4	2
4 or >	6	6	2
Total	45	44	40

Starting Point

Tracking Panel's Progress (program outcome)

- Program Core Courses
- Gen Ed Courses

AY 2016 - 2018 data

of students completed a set % of required courses per year:

- Core Courses (33%, 66%, 100%)
- Gen Ed Courses (33%, 66%, 100%)

Program Outcome in Year 1 n = 25 (2016 panel)

Years in the Program	Gen Ed Course (%)			Core Course (%)		
	33	66	100	33	66	100
1	7	2	8	0	0	0
2	1	2	5	1	0	0
3	0	0	4	0	0	0
4 or >	1	0	5	0	0	0
Total						

Program Outcome in Year 2 n = 25 (2016 panel)

Years in the Program	Gen Ed Course (%)			Core Course (%)		
	33	66	100	33	66	100
1						
2	0	3	4	1	0	0
3	1	0	3	0	0	0
4 or >	1	1	4	0	0	0
Total						

Program Outcome in Year 3 n = 25 (2016 panel)

Years in the	Gen Ed Course (%)			Core Course (%)		
Program	33	66	100	33	66	100
1						
2	0	3	4	1	0	0
3	0	0	2	0	0	0
4 or >	1	1	4	0	0	0
Total						

Reasons for not completing the required courses on time

- Need more time for Gen Ed courses
- Need specific advising on selecting program core courses
- Have other responsibilities that prevents them from taking a full load

Reasons for Attrition

- Changed major
- Transferred to Main Campus or other institutions of higher education
- Left Valencia for personal reasons
- Had other responsibilities
- Did not have the opportunities to acquire the skill to prepare them for college
- Were not mentored to maintain their aspiration
- Were discouraged because they felt lost or disenfranchised
- Faced unexpected transportation situations

Weakness of the Model

- Assumes program outcomes align with course learning outcomes
- Assumes program outcomes align with institution learning outcomes
- Does not track # of course, either Gen Ed or Core Courses
- A tracking period of 3 years
- The model does not account for all students in the program

Moving Forward

- Refine data collection to better explain students outcome
- Utilize a case management model
- Collaborate with academic advisors to assist students' course selection
- Establish a Learning Community
- Help build camaraderie among the majors
- Organize co-curricular activities

Further down the road

- Redefine SPLO
- Syllabus analysis
- Curriculum mapping
- Propose to create a capstone course for the program
- Align course outcomes with program outcomes



Anything you would like us to clarify

Presenters contact:

John Bollweg jbollweg@unm.edu

Julia Wai-Yin So juliaso (a) unm.edu

Thank you!

References

Bers, Trudy. 2004. "Assessment at the Program Level." New Direction for Community College Special Issue: Developing and Implementing Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes. 126: p. 43 – 52. Downloaded from https://doi.org/10.1002/cc.153

Danielson, Karen, Stephen Thomas, Stephanie Harrison, Erin Farb, Karey James & Jackie Carpio. *Program-Level Assessment: Guidelines for Improving Program-Level Student Learning Outcomes.*

Diamond, Robert M. 1998. *Designing and Assessing Course and Curricula: A Practical Guide.* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass

https://developingchild.harvard.edu/collective-change/key-concepts/learning-communities/

https://www.communitycollegereview.com/blog/the-catch-22-of-community-college-graduation-rates

Hawkins, Amy L., "Relationship between Undergraduate Student Activity and Academic Performance." 2010. *College of Technology Directed Projects. Paper 13*. Downloaded at: http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/techdirproj/13