2006-2007 Annual Update Checklist Results

The Annual Assessment Update was implemented in the academic year 2003-2004. This assessment requires that each academic program in the university submit an Annual Update Form at the end of the academic year reporting on two assessment activities that have been undertaken that year. The format of the Annual Update Form calls for 1) an explanation of the assessment methods, 2) the student learning outcomes addressed by the methods, 3) evidence of findings, and 4) use of assessment results. In 2007, the University Assessment Panel (UAP) set the target for success in compliance with submitting the Annual Update Forms at 100 percent. Likewise, the UAP set the target for success in each section of the Annual Update Forms at 100 percent. As can be seen in Table 1, compliance with the Annual Update Assessment has been steadily increasing over the past four years the assessment has been in place, and reached the UAP’s target of 100 percent this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Number of Submissions</th>
<th>Total Number of Programs</th>
<th>Percent Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upon their submission, the Annual Update Forms are reviewed by the Director of Assessment Services and other staff in the Office of Assessment Services. A standardized checklist for review is used to provide feedback to academic programs on their assessment efforts. Guidelines for completing the Annual Update Checklist are distributed to the staff. Using these guidelines, at least 80 percent agreement between staff was achieved each of the four years of the assessment as demonstrated by a random sample of 5 percent of the Annual Assessment Updates.

A database has been developed and maintained that includes tracking and feedback for the Annual Assessment Updates. This database allows for the reporting of summary assessment data, including the percent of programs that met the criteria in each of the four areas. These data are presented in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
<th>Use of Results</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>92% (51%)</td>
<td>96% (27%)</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>63% (18%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Percent met includes both “Met” and “Partially Met.” Percentage in parentheses includes two additional criteria that were added to the Methods and Student Learning Outcomes sections in 2006-2007.

While the percent of programs that have met the criteria in each of the four areas has generally increased over the past four years, review of the Annual Update Checklists indicated that there is still progress to be made in several areas as none are currently meeting the UAP’s target for success set at 100 percent. In particular, more progress needs to be made in the area of specifying measurable student learning outcomes. A new criterion was added to the Student Learning Outcomes section in academic year 2006-2007, requesting programs to set specific targets in order to measure success relevant to the student learning outcomes listed. Only 27 percent of the programs included numeric targets this year. Review of the Annual Update Checklists also revealed that there is a need for greater continuity across each of the assessment components.

Specific results regarding the percent of programs that received met, partially met, and unmet ratings for the individual criteria in each of the four areas for the total university and individual colleges are provided.
Annual Assessment Update Criteria

Methods

1) Two distinct assessment methods are listed
2) All assessment methods discussed in “Evidence” are listed in “Methods”
3) Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes
4) Methods are clearly defined
5) Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment
6) Surveys, rubrics, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate*

Student Learning Outcomes

1) Learning Outcomes are clearly stated
2) Learning Outcomes are measurable
3) Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success*

Evidence

1) A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided
2) Data provided are relevant to the assessment method
3) Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by “Learning Outcomes”

Use of Results

1) Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in “Evidence”
2) Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment
3) Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes

Note. * = Criterion added in academic year 2006-2007
NIU- Methods Section

Note. Criterion 1: Two distinct assessment methods are listed; Criterion 2: All assessment methods discussed in "Evidence" are listed in "Methods"; Criterion 3: Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes; Criterion 4: Methods are clearly defined; Criterion 5: Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment; Criterion 6: Surveys, rubrics, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate.
NIU- Student Learning Outcomes Section

Note: Criterion 1: Learning Outcomes are clearly stated; Criterion 2: Learning Outcomes are measurable; Criterion 3: Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success.

NIU- Evidence Section

Note: Criterion 1: A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided; Criterion 2: Data provided are relevant to the assessment method; Criterion 3: Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by "Learning Outcomes".

NIU- Use of Results Section

Note: Criterion 1: Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in "Evidence"; Criterion 2: Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment; Criterion 3: Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes.
College of Business - Methods Section

Note. Criterion 1: Two distinct assessment methods are listed; Criterion 2: All assessment methods discussed in "Evidence" are listed in "Methods"; Criterion 3: Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes; Criterion 4: Methods are clearly defined; Criterion 5: Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment; Criterion 6: Surveys, rubrics, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate.
Note. Criterion 1: Learning Outcomes are clearly stated; Criterion 2: Learning Outcomes are measurable; Criterion 3: Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success.

Note. Criterion 1: A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided; Criterion 2: Data provided are relevant to the assessment method; Criterion 3: Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by "Learning Outcomes".

Note. Criterion 1: Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in "Evidence". Criterion 2: Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment; Criterion 3: Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes.
College of Education - Methods Section

Note: Criterion 1: Two distinct assessment methods are listed; Criterion 2: All assessment methods discussed in "Evidence" are listed in "Methods"; Criterion 3: Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes; Criterion 4: Methods are clearly defined; Criterion 5: Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment; Criterion 6: Surveys, rubrics, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate
Note. Criterion 1: Learning Outcomes are clearly stated; Criterion 2: Learning Outcomes are measurable; Criterion 3: Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success.

Note. Criterion 1: A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided; Criterion 2: Data provided are relevant to the assessment method; Criterion 3: Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by "Learning Outcomes".

Note. Criterion 1: Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in "Evidence"; Criterion 2: Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment; Criterion 3: Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes.
College of Engineering: Methods Section

Note. Criterion 1: Two distinct assessment methods are listed. Criterion 2: All assessment methods discussed in "Evidence" are listed in "Methods". Criterion 3: Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes; Criterion 4: Methods are clearly defined; Criterion 5: Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment; Criterion 6: Surveys, rubrics, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate.
Note. Criterion 1: Learning Outcomes are clearly stated; Criterion 2: Learning Outcomes are measurable; Criterion 3: Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success.

Note. Criterion 1: A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided; Criterion 2: Data provided are relevant to the assessment method; Criterion 3: Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by "Learning Outcomes".

Note. Criterion 1: Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in "Evidence"; Criterion 2: Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment; Criterion 3: Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes.
College of Health & Human Sciences - Methods Section

Note: Criterion 1: Two distinct assessment methods are listed; Criterion 2: All assessment methods discussed in "Evidence" are listed in "Methods"; Criterion 3: Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes; Criterion 4: Methods are clearly defined; Criterion 5: Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment; Criterion 6: Rubrics, surveys, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate.
Note. Criterion 1: Learning Outcomes are clearly stated; Criterion 2: Learning Outcomes are measurable; Criterion 3: Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success.

Note. Criterion 1: A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided; Criterion 2: Data provided are relevant to the assessment method; Criterion 3: Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by "Learning Outcomes."

Note. Criterion 1: Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in "Evidence"; Criterion 2: Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment; Criterion 3: Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes.
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences - Methods Section

Cropion 1 | Criterion 2 | Criterion 3 | Criterion 4 | Criterion 5 | Criterion 6

Level: Met | Partially Met | Unmet

Note: Criterion 1: Two distinct assessment methods are listed; Criterion 2: All assessment methods discussed in "Evidence" are listed in "Methods"; Criterion 3: Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes; Criterion 4: Methods are clearly defined; Criterion 5: Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment; Criterion 6: Surveys, rubrics, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate.
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences - Student Learning Outcomes Section

Note. Criterion 1: Learning Outcomes are clearly stated; Criterion 2: Learning Outcomes are measurable; Criterion 3: Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences - Evidence Section

Note. Criterion 1: A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided; Criterion 2: Data provided are relevant to the assessment method; Criterion 3: Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by "Learning Outcomes"

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences - Use of Results Section

Note. Criterion 1: Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in "Evidence"; Criterion 2: Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment; Criterion 3: Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes
Note: Criterion 1: Two distinct assessment methods are listed; Criterion 2: All assessment methods discussed in "Evidence" are listed in "Methods"; Criterion 3: Methods are relevant to the Learning Outcomes; Criterion 4: Methods are clearly defined; Criterion 5: Methods listed are appropriate means of assessment; Criterion 6: Surveys, rubrics, and/or other assessment tools are included as appropriate.
College of Visual & Performing Arts - Student Learning Outcomes Section

Note. Criterion 1: Learning Outcomes are clearly stated; Criterion 2: Learning Outcomes are measurable; Criterion 3: Learning Outcomes include a numeric target for success.

College of Visual & Performing Arts - Evidence Section

Note. Criterion 1: A summary of the data from each assessment method is provided; Criterion 2: Data provided are relevant to the assessment method; Criterion 3: Data provided are stated in measurable terms as defined by "Learning Outcome".

College of Visual & Performing Arts - Use of Results Section

Note. Criterion 1: Results used are relevant to findings mentioned in "Evidence"; Criterion 2: Results used are in an effort to improve/maintain the program as indicated by assessment; Criterion 3: Results used are relevant to student learning outcomes.