Division of Student Life Assessment Plan

There are four main aspects of the **assessment process**: 1) creating learning **goals** and **outcomes** that flow from a mission statement, 2) creating methods through which students can achieve learning outcomes (e.g., programs & services) and **evaluating** those methods (e.g., rubrics, surveys, observations), 3) interpreting the results of your **evaluations,** and 4) making **decisions** about how to improve your programs and services based on your interpretations of the evaluations.

For the past several years we have been engaging in activities such as workshops, webinars, and guided practice to help us to make assessment a regular part of the activities of the Division of Student Life. Thus far we have focused on the first two stages of the assessment process; during 2010-2011 we will be focusing on the remaining stages in the process. What follows is an overview of our process and a timeline for how we plan to proceed.

Stage 1: Mission and Learning Goals

- The Division revised its mission statement and created six goals for student learning (2008-2010):
    - A. Interpersonal and Intrapersonal Competence
    - B. Reasoned and Ethical Decision Making
    - C. Personal Well-being
    - D. Campus Involvement
    - E. Creativity and Appreciation of Artistic and Intellectual Expression
    - F. Multicultural Competence

- Dr. Marilee Bresciani presented a workshop on writing learning outcomes (Jan., 2009)
- Each department revised its mission and created goals for student learning associated with this mission. All departmental goals were to be consistent with the learning goals for the Division (2009)
- Student Life Departments wrote learning outcomes for at least one program (March, 2009)
- Annual report was revised to include a section on learning outcomes
- Division wide "map" was created to show how departmental programs and services fulfilled divisional goals (fall, 2009)
- Departments and departments include their mission statements on their revised websites (spring, 2010).

Stage 2: Introducing Methods of Evaluating Outcomes and Collecting Data
- Marilee Bresciani conducted a workshop on evaluation methods (May 2009)
- Grace Reynolds and Karen Forbes presented a workshop on using rubrics (Nov., 2009)
- Resources are listed on Division Moodle site (2009-10)
- Departments submitted list of annual surveys to the College's Advisory Committee on Assessment to coordinate institutional assessment efforts and reduce "survey fatigue" (spring, 2010)
- *Workshops on survey construction & using existing campus datasets to evaluate your programs (2010-11)*

Stage 3: Interpreting Evaluation Results and Reporting
- NASPA Webinar: Using Data for Decisions: Data Integration (summer, 2009)
- Departments used a Departmental Assessment Record to summarize assessment efforts (spring-summer, 2010)
- Professional development session with Prof. Jim Schaffer on understanding basic statistics and working with Institutional Research
- Construction of a divisional assessment database with the assistance of students in the Computer Science department(2010-11)

Stage 4: Making Outcomes-Based Decisions
- Department heads attended a webinar on Data Driven Decision Making (Feb, 2010)

March 2011

- *Department heads will review Divisional Map to determine the extent to which the departments are offering programs and services that meet Divisional goals.(summer 2011)*
- *Database will be used to assess how well Division is achieving its goals for students learning, contributing to the College's mission, and using its resources (summer 2011)*

March 2011