

Odyssey Assessment Meeting: Report

Please fill out this report based on your department's conversation and return via e-mail to Megan Leonard or Sasha Pfau by May 31, 2017.

Summary of past decisions

Please summarize up to three changes made since the last HLC visit (08-09) the impetus for those changes and any changes to information gathering about student development.

- 1) **The faculty adopted learning goals for the Odyssey program during the spring of 2013. A revised assessment plan was developed to gauge the degree to which these goals are being achieved by the time students graduate from the college.**
- 2) **A new first-semester course was implemented in the fall of 2013. One of its learning goals (also adopted by the faculty) is "the ability to engage in and reflect on experiential learning that connects directly to the classroom experience, preparing the students for vibrant Odyssey experiences later in their Hendrix careers."**
- 3) **The program implemented a \$1000 first-time travel award for students carrying out Undergraduate Research and Artistic Creativity projects to present their work at regional, national, or international meetings.**
- 4) **A series of reforms were put in place to ratchet up completion rates for students in a timely manner, providing increased pedagogical potency for the projects.**
- 5) **To celebrate those students who fully embrace the breadth of the Odyssey program, a new graduation Distinction in Odyssey award was created for students who complete all six categories in a manner that fully lives up to the program's learning goals**

Looking forward

Please summarize your program's focus for student development and your evaluation methods.

- 1) **With the reforms in place to enhance completion rates by developing clearer deadlines, we anticipate that more projects will be completed and, more importantly, that those projects will have greater impact on the students.**
- 2) **We will track the number of students still lacking completed Odyssey projects going into their final semester at the College as a gauge of the degree to which these efforts are paying off.**
- 3) **We will continue to move towards the enhancement of on-line application and completion materials, to increase the portion of student projects that are completed in a manner that lives up to their learning goals.**

Your program's role in achieving the college's shared goals for students

Please explain how your learning goals contribute to the Vision for Student Learning Goals. Feel free to attach a map or other supporting documents.

Attached find our mapping of the links between the Odyssey Learning Goals and the VSLG. We have examined the assessment group's initial mapping and find it consistent with our analysis.