

Departmental and Program Assessment Annual Assessment Plan Report

Academic Year: **2009-10** Chair: **Oxner**

Academic Department, Program, General Education Unit: **Economics and Business**

Student Assessment Plan (SAP) – Basic Check-list – If your answers are “yes” a question in this section, no further explanation is necessary.

1. Is there a current assessment plan for your department, program, or general education component? Current implies that the department uses this SAP. It does not have to be rewritten unless your assessment plan has changed. It should be on the web at <http://www.hendrix.edu/academics/academics.aspx?id=7264>.

yes

2. Does the current SAP include student learning goals? Departmental/programmatic/general education component student learning goals should be able to stand alone as a list without pages of explanatory commentary.

yes

3. Does your SAP include a list of assessment data collected yearly? Assessment data lists should be able to stand alone without pages of explanatory commentary. Additionally, collected data should be of enough value to the department that it is read yearly. If not, it is probably not of sufficient use to collect.

yes

4. Are student learning goals available to students on the web on the departmental/programmatic page(s)?

yes

5. Are student learning goals, appropriate for each course, included in the course syllabi in your department or program?

yes

6. Does your SAP include direct assessments? “Direct” refers to evaluated student work.

yes

7. Describe which indirect assessments in your assessment plan have been collected for the year and which have not. “Indirect” refers to student surveys, interviews, or opinions.

Indirect assessments of learning gathered this year include performance in the business simulation game during the capstone course, and evaluation of economic research projects.

Student Assessment Plan Development - Departments and programs who have a complete and current SAP should consider the next step in SAP development. *This could easily be the annual action item for your department or program (next section #5).*

1. As a next step in SAP development, departments/programs are encouraged begin working on an assessment audit to determine how student learning goals fit across the courses in the major. This could be as complicated as a full grid of student learning goals, or a single learning goal, across the courses in the major. (This has not been required of departments, but it is a recommended next step when the SAP is up to date.)

We have not performed such an audit.

Yearly Assessment Report – each department or program is expected to have assessment discussions for at least two hours each academic year. **Help is available from David Sutherland, just call or email.**

1. What was your planned action item identified in your last report?
To reconsider the prerequisites required for upper level accounting courses. The department has successfully reinstated BUSI 210 Fundamentals of Accounting and Business II. We had also planned to retool the senior survey, but this item was not addressed.

2. Briefly summarize the topics discussed in your annual assessment meeting. (If you have not met this year, why not and when do you plan to meet?)

We have not had an annual assessment meeting. Other departmental issues have taken precedence: preparing a document for the proposed School of Business, planning for and meeting with a consultant related to the proposed School, as well as selecting students for a Rwandan Tea Shop Business Plan Odyssey project. Hopefully, we can have an assessment meeting this fall.

3. What was the conclusion of your assessment discussion and how did the collected assessment data inform your conclusion? Specifically describe any curricular or programmatic changes that have been made that were based, at least in part, on the data in your SAP.
N/A

4. What are the plans for improving student learning in your unit?

No solid plans have been articulated at this point.

5. Define at least one new action item for your unit that will be a goal of your assessment discussions next year?

1. Review and possibly rewrite the senior survey. Determine an optimal manner to offer the survey.

2. Determine whether additional reports are available from ETS regarding our students' performance on the Major Field Test (e.g., relative comparison of Hendrix to national statistics.)

(This action item could be to work on the SAP or on the assessment audit to correlate student learning goals with specific courses, described above. It can (and perhaps should) be a very limited item.)