THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
**Academic Initiatives & Student Success**

Fall 2014 Closing the Assessment Loop Survey
Summary of Findings

The fall 2014 Closing the Assessment Loop Survey was administered by Assessment and Research (A&R) December 17, 2014 – February 10, 2015. The survey was emailed to 40 staff members, representing 38 unique units, achieving a response rate of 67.5% (N=27). The survey tool was developed to learn more about assessment conducted across the division and to understand how results are being used. The following highlights major findings.

Assessment Conducted in Consultation with A&R

- More than half (59%) of respondents indicated they worked directly with A&R during fall 2014. Of those, 56% completed additional assessment projects outside of the ones that received consultation from A&R.
- While findings reveal that fewer units worked on assessment efforts in consultation with A&R, more units completed additional assessment projects on their own, which is an indicator of increased assessment capacity throughout the division.

	Fall 2013	Fall 2014
Worked with A&R	74%	59%
Completed Additional Assessment	39%	56%
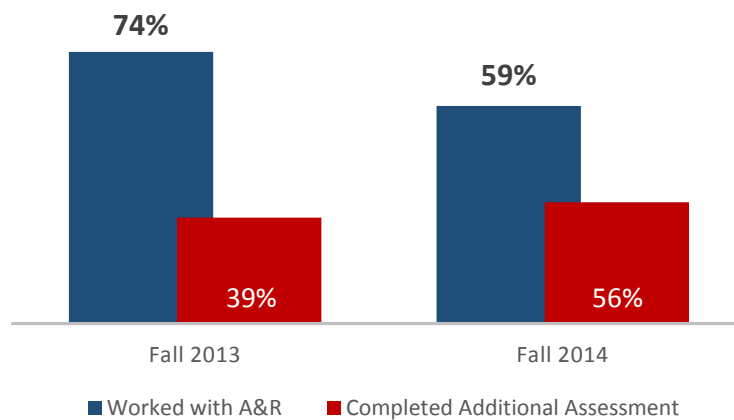
Assessment Conducted Independent of A&R

- Of those respondents who indicated they did not work directly with A&R, more than half (55%) still completed assessment projects on their own during fall 2014

Types of Assessment Projects Planned and/or Completed

- Survey respondents were asked to indicate the types of assessment projects planned and/or completed during fall 2014. **Respondents and corresponding units conducting outcomes assessment increased from 59% in fall 2013 to 77% in fall 2014.**

Assessment Type:	Fall 2013 N=31	Fall 2014 N=27
Outcomes	**59%**	**77%**
Tracking	68%	77%
Satisfaction	68%	59%
Needs	45%	41%
Benchmarking	14%	22%
Cost Effectiveness	14%	18%
Student and Campus Cultures	9%	18%
Other	14%	14%
National Standards Assessment	5%	9%

Closing the Assessment Loop

- Survey respondents were asked how they "closed the assessment loop", specifically asking how they used the results of their assessment project as actionable insights to inform their practice. More than half indicated they changed or created a program (55%). Half conducted or planned additional work (50%) and changed or created a new process (50%).

Changes Made to "Close the Assessment Loop"	Fall 2013 N=31	Fall 2014 N=27
Changed/Created Program	41%	55%
Conducted/Planned Additional Assessment	55%	50%
Changed/Created Process	27%	50%
Changed/Created Service	18%	36%
Identified a new target group	27%	32%
Reallocated Staff/Funding/Resources	14%	32%
Other	36%	18%
Changed/Created a New Policy	9%	9%
Changed/Created Product	5%	0%

- The survey asked respondents to describe the most important change their units made that was informed by their assessment results. The majority of responses (12/21) described improving programs and services. Other responses included improved planning for future assessment and identifying needs for new programs and services. Examples of such responses include the following:
  - "In process of planning better data collection instruments to get at larger outcomes"
  - "Keeping assessment in mind - for all efforts and from the start"

Barriers to Planning and Conducting Assessment

- All respondents were asked about barriers they or their unit faced in conducting assessment. Half of all responses given (9/18) indicated that staff capacity and lack of time in conducting assessment was a barrier. Other barriers described included learning how to effectively measure and report student learning (5/18), and low response rates and timing (2/18).

Sharing Assessment Results

The survey asked respondents to identify who they shared their assessment results with and how they shared them.

- The majority of responses indicated sharing results with leadership (62%). Others included internal staff (38%), external partners and funding sources (33%), the division and campus community (24%), national audiences (5%), and the students they serve (5%).
- Some examples of how assessment results were shared include: staff meetings and trainings, presentations, conferences, reports made available online, and divisional publications/reporting.

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