



# PC Assessment

## Annual Report, 2005-2006

### ASSESSMENT LEADERSHIP

Brian Bartolini, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs (AVPAA), maintained overall responsibility for campus assessment. Effective July 1, 2005, the Office of Institutional Research moved administratively to Academic Affairs and its Director, Thomas Frank, reported to B. Bartolini.

### COMMITTEE ON ASSESSMENT ISSUES & RESOURCES (CAIR)

During 2005-2006, committee members included:

- Yvonne Arruda
- Brian Bartolini (chair)
- Alice Beckwith
- Thomas Frank
- John Hogan
- Marian Mattison
- Mary O'Keeffe
- Steven Sears
- Pamela Sherer
- Brian Williams

Catherine Pantano staffed CAIR.

The committee held 6 meetings:

- September 21, 2005
- November 2, 2005
- December 14, 2005
- February 1, 2006
- March 1, 2006
- May 10, 2006

Major CAIR activities included:

- Helping to coordinate administration of campus-wide assessments (Student Satisfaction Inventory—SSI was the major campus-wide assessment in 2005-2006)

Major CAIR activities, *con't*:

- Helping to develop the voluntary course evaluation program (IDEA Student Ratings System)
- Evaluating departmental assessment surveys/proposals (Social Work request for departmental testing support; Course Registration survey)

### CAMPUS-WIDE ASSESSMENTS—COMPLETED

1. Admitted Student Questionnaire, Spring/Summer 2005 (1600 responses/4113 questionnaires, 39% response rate)
2. Cooperative Institutional Research Program, Summer 2005 (1029 responses/1067 surveys, 96% response rate)
3. Alumni Survey—One-Year Out, Summer/Fall 2005 (352 responses/859 surveys, 41% response rate)
4. Employment/Educational Status Survey—6 Months Out, Fall 2005 (281 responses/849 surveys, 33% response rate)
5. Student Satisfaction Inventory, Spring 2006 (899 responses/1889 surveys, 48% response rate)

### AD HOC SURVEYS FOR WHICH CONSULTATION/SUPPORT WAS PROVIDED

- Institutional Advancement's Alumni Club Regional Leadership Survey (*Zoomerang online survey*)
- Campus Ministry's Student Assessment Survey—Level 1
- Institutional Research's Office Assessment Survey (*Zoomerang*)
- Enrollment Services' Student Registration Satisfaction Survey (*Zoomerang*)

### AD HOC SURVEYS FOR WHICH CONSULTATION/SUPPORT WAS PROVIDED, *CON'T*

- Faculty Senate's Faculty Diversity Climate Survey (*Zoomerang*)
- Binge Drinking Survey (student research project; sponsored by Committee on Campus Culture, Conduct, and Civility)
- Committee for the Enhancement of Learning's Collaborative Teaching Survey (*Zoomerang*)
- SCE's Student Technology Survey
- Healthcare Advisory Committee's Faculty/Staff Survey (*Zoomerang*)

### CONSULTING MEETINGS W/ AVPAA: ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS/PROGRAMS/FACULTY (16 meetings)

- American Studies
- Committee for the Enhancement of Learning (CEL)
- Core Curriculum Review Committee
- Development of Western Civilization
- English
- Faculty Senate - *ad hoc* Diversity Committee
- Finance
- Global Studies
- Health Policy and Management
- Humanities
- Mathematics/Computer Science
- Social Science
- Social Work

### WORKING DEFINITION OF ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT IS "ANY EFFORT TO GATHER, ANALYZE, AND INTERPRET EVIDENCE WHICH BEST DESCRIBES INSTITUTIONAL, DIVISIONAL, OR AGENCY EFFECTIVENESS."

➔ Upcraft, M. L., & Schuh, J. H. (1996, p. 18). *Assessment in student affairs: A guide for practitioners*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass

### PROVIDENCE COLLEGE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- |                              |                        |                                     |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 DEVELOP/ARTICULATE MISSION | 3 DEVELOP MEASUREMENTS | 5 EVALUATE/INTERPRET/REPORT RESULTS |
| 2 DEVELOP OUTCOMES           | 4 CONDUCT MEASUREMENTS | 6 EXECUTE IMPROVEMENTS AS NECESSARY |

### ASSESSMENT AFFIRMATION—USE THE DATA

ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES ARE ONLY USEFUL INsofar AS THEY CONFIRM THE EFFICACY OF CURRENT PRACTICES OR INFORM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF IMPROVED PRACTICES.

### ASSESSMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

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### CONSULTING MEETINGS W/ AVPAA: EDUCATIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNITS/STAFF (33 meetings)

- Academic Media Services
- Balfour Center for Multicultural Affairs
- Campus Culture, Conduct, & Civility Committee
- Career Services
- Chaplain's Office
- Enrollment Services
- Finance & Business
- Financial Aid
- Graduate Studies
- Health Education & Wellness
- Healthcare Advisory Committee
- Institutional Advancement
- Institutional Research
- Intramurals & Recreational Sports
- Judicial Affairs
- Mission & Ministry
- Off-Campus Living
- Personal Counseling
- Safety & Security
- School of Continuing Education
- Technology Initiatives (incl. C. Haberle, M. Fimian)
- UG Dean's Office
- VPAA Office

### DATA/REPORTING MEETINGS

- Nine (9) meetings of the Reporting Advisory Group (B. Bartolini, T. Frank, H. Lena, K. Steiner, B. Williams)

### DATA/REPORTING MEETINGS, CON'T

- Thirty-three (33) meetings of B. Williams and B. Bartolini to create data views, to mine and analyze data, and to prepare reports

### COMMERCIAL ASSESSMENT EXAMINATIONS

The assessment program supported the departments of Accountancy, Chemistry & Biochemistry, Economics, and Psychology in using Educational Testing Service's Major Field Tests (MFT) and the departments of Art/Art History and Social Work in using NOMEsys' Area Concentration Achievement Tests (ACAT).

### ASSESSMENT/INFORMATION IN ACTION PUBLICATIONS

*Prepared by B. Bartolini unless noted*

- Undergraduate Day School Dependence on SCE(?) special analysis (August 3, 2005)
- Undergraduate Extra Course Review special analysis, prepared by B. Williams (August 17, 2005)
- SCE Planning Data—Summary (August 2, 2005)
- Assessment Program Annual Report, 2004-2005 (August 29, 2005)
- CIRP Incoming Students' (Class of 2004) Views on Religion/Spirituality Compared to National Norms special report, prepared by Institutional Research (August 29, 2005)
- CIRP Incoming Students' (Class of 2004) Activities in the Past Year Compared to National Norms special report, prepared by Institutional Research (October 7, 2005)

### ASSESSMENT/INFORMATION IN ACTION PUBLICATIONS, CON'T

- Course Fee Structure analysis and recommendation, prepared by B. Williams (October 12, 2005)
- Alcohol-Social Activities-Health focused report (October 15, 2005)
- CIRP Incoming Students' (Class of 2004) Objectives to Achieve During College Compared to National Norms special report, prepared by Institutional Research (November 14, 2005)
- Academics special analysis (November 21, 2005)
- DWC 101/201 Grades by Team and GPA by Team, Fall 2005 special report, prepared by Institutional Research (January 27, 2006)
- PC Class of 2005 Employment/Educational Status Six Months Out focused report (February 17, 2006)
- PC Alumni Survey Class of 2004 One-Year Out analysis, prepared by Institutional Research (February 21, 2006)
- Diversity special analysis (March 10, 2006)
- Campus Newsletter *Assessment in Action*, V3/I1 (March 21, 2006)
- Study Abroad Students and their Majors report, 2005-2006 (April 10, 2006)
- Majors/Minors counts report, Spring 2006 (June 7, 2006)
- SAT Optional Data Implications analysis and recommendations (June 9, 2006)

*Note: reports were shared with appropriate and/or requesting constituencies*

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### ASSESSMENT PRESENTATIONS, UPDATES, AND/OR PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS

- Assessment update provided to the Providence College Strategic Planning Steering Committee by B. Bartolini (December 12, 2005)
- Assessment consultation provided to Lee Rutmanowitz, Associate Provost, Manhattanville College, by B. Bartolini (phone, February 15, 2006)
- Assessment consultation provided to Kristen Procopio, Research Analyst, Emmanuel College, by B. Bartolini (phone, March 13, 2006)
- Co-coordinated Providence College's participation in the University of Scranton's Benchmarking Study, Re: staffing ratios/information (B. Bartolini, Patricia Beland, Kathy Alvino); began with submitting dataset to Scranton March 21, 2006, concluded with Scranton delegation visit to Providence College November 14-15, 2006
- Assessment update provided to NEASC Planning and Evaluation Standard Team by B. Bartolini (May 15, 2006)
- Assessment update provided to members of NEASC Faculty Standard Team by B. Bartolini (May 17, 2006)

### CAMPUS ASSESSMENT SUPPORT PROVIDED BY ENROLLMENT SERVICES

- Performed Degree Audit Analysis for the Natural Science I Core requirement to determine needed seats
- Performed pre- and post-renovation surveys for classroom satisfaction as part of the "Celebrating our Classrooms" project
- Worked with VPAA on analysis related to Graduate Studies and Continuing Education; conducted review of majors, trends in enrollment, and analysis of undergraduate students taking SCE courses
- Aided various Faculty Senate *ad hoc* Committees with creation of online surveys for campus-based initiatives (Study Abroad, Diversity Climate, Collaborative Teaching)
- Aided in development of campus online assessment surveys, including Alumni Club/Regional Chapter survey, Institutional Research Client Survey, Web Registration Satisfaction Survey
- Utilized online surveys and assessment measures for Campus Visit programs in Admissions
- Analyzed graduated students in a beta project using the National Student Clearinghouse to analyze subsequent enrollment of our students
- Worked with Assistant Vice President for Admission and Enrollment Planning to simulate financial aid strategy to determine new scholarships and grant awarding strategies for the Class of 2010

### CAMPUS ASSESSMENT SUPPORT PROVIDED BY ENROLLMENT SERVICES, CON'T

- Worked with Faculty Senate (Academic Affairs I) to assess the current undergraduate course series method. Completed comprehensive study of current practices, faculty needs/wants in a new model, proposed models, and a full-simulation (65% participation rate among departments), resulting in approval of a new course series model on a trial basis.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (B. Bartolini)

- Attended New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) New Evaluator Workshop, September 16, 2005, Waltham, MA
- Attended New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) Self-Study Workshop, October 27-28, 2005, B. Bartolini & H. Lena, Marlborough, MA
- Attended North East Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Annual Conference, November 6-8, 2005, Saratoga Springs, NY; presented poster session "Packaging Assessment for Meaning and Impact" (November 7, 2005)
- Attended New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC) Assessment Forum and Annual Meeting, December 7-9, 2005, Boston, MA

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### Additional Assessment Tools

#### AGB BENCHMARKING SERVICE

- Maintained subscription to Association of Governing Boards' Benchmarking Service. This online tool allows for customized queries of major national datasets, including Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

#### iWEBFOLIO ELECTRONIC PORTFOLIO

- B. Bartolini served as member of the Electronic Portfolio Exploratory Group (EPEG) which, after a thorough review, selected and purchased Nuventive's iWebfolio ePortfolio solution

#### TRACDAT

- Maintained contract with Nuventive for TracDat enterprise (unlimited) version; \$4000 annual maintenance fee

#### ZOOMERANG

- Subscribed to Zoomerang online surveying solution; \$350 annual fee—saved \$75 by renewing for two-years (\$625)

### Assessment Status Report

#### ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

- Thirty-seven (37) academic departments and programs are presently considered assessment units; thirty-three (33) have working assessment plans or are currently developing such plans (89%)

### Assessment Status Report, con't

#### EDUCATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT ASSESSMENT

- There are eight (8) administrative divisions of the College (including the Executive Office and General Counsel); six (6) have at least one unit within them engaged in meaningful assessment (75%). Forty (40) educational/administrative offices are considered assessment units; thirty-four (34) have working assessment plans or are currently developing such plans (85%).

#### CORE CURRICULUM ASSESSMENT

- The assessment of the core curriculum has not begun. The Core Curriculum Review is expected to recommend that authentic assessment is embedded in the new Core.

### Assessment Infrastructure/Needs

#### ASSESSMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

- Committee on Assessment Issues & Resources: 10 members; meet regularly to advise the AVPAA on assessment activities
- AVPAA: responsible for leading and coordinating campus assessment initiatives and activities
- Institutional Research: prepares reports/analyses; conducts studies
- Enrollment Services: prepares reports/analyses related to enrollment services; assists in the coordination of selected assessment activities
- Assessment budget/expenditures, 2005-2006: Budget \$30,000/Expenses \$21,724

### Assessment Infrastructure/Needs, con't

#### ASSESSMENT NEEDS

In order to move to the next level of assessment excellence, the following needs should be considered and addressed:

- Continue to refine and improve departmental/unit assessment plans and ensure the execution of them
- Continue to shift emphasis among educational/administrative support units from student-focused only assessment to operational, institutional effectiveness assessment in accordance with NEASC standards
- Institute a formal program review process for academic departments and programs and educational/administrative support units
- Embed assessment into revised core curriculum
- Continue to improve in ability to make successful contact with graduates (e.g., via email)
- Enhance and extend capacity to process and analyze data effectively (staff expertise and resources)
- Continue to increase budget for campus-wide assessment initiatives, tools, and support

#### CURRENT/UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Expansion of public/internal assessment Web sites
- Implementation of ePortfolio (iWebfolio) as authentic assessment tool
- Integration of new Assessment/Research Analyst position

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