

## **Student Affairs Action Coalition Process Survey 2009 & 2010**

### **Brief description of project:**

The Student Affairs Action Coalition is a comprised of members of departments within Student Affairs whose purpose is to promote data-driven decision-making through systematic review of assessment data and development of practice recommendations. The coalition is comprised of different committees who examine data related to specific focus areas and develop practice recommendations. Both the data and the practice recommendation are shared with the full Action Coalition to examine larger systemic issues and develop collective priorities. These recommendations are then shared with the Student Affairs Leadership Team, Directors, Program Coordinators and other interested parties.

### **Who was asked to complete survey:**

Members of the Student Affairs Action Coalition

**Response Rate:** 78.3% (18 of 23) for 2009; 62.0% (18 of 29) for 2010

**Administration Type:** StudentVoice e-mail

### **Summary of Key Findings:**

In order to model good assessment practice and improve the Action Coalition, at the conclusion of the final full Action Coalition meeting, committee members are asked to evaluate their experience. Based on combined results from year one and year two, 81% of participants indicated that they learned more about Student Affairs related data and 75% learned more about other departments. Changes were made to the initial Action Coalition meeting for the second year based on evaluation results. Specifically, the purpose and process of the Action Coalition as well as committee objectives were covered in greater detail. Participants in both years commented that the initial and concluding full Action Coalition were helpful. Student involvement was viewed positively which resulted in an increase in the number of students recruited for year two. The Action Coalition is preparing for the third year and incorporating best practices from the previous two years. An ongoing challenge is to understand how the practice recommendations are being utilized and to look for larger systemic changes. The Student Affairs Action Coalition is an evolving experiment and an attempt to move data into action.

### **Actions Taken:**

Based on the results from the 2009 survey, emphasis was placed on the first and final meetings to provide context for the Action Coalition. Suggestions were also provided to committee chairs about strategies that had been successful as well as those that were problematic. The results from the 2010 survey were very similar although there was less variation by committee which suggests that having a pilot year was helpful to build a structure to facilitate the process. This information will be reviewed and the assessment component will be refined for 2011.

**Which department and/or program goals does this survey align with?**

3. Increase the accessibility and usage of Student Affairs data for development opportunities and promotion of best practices.
  - d. Increase the integration of related data into trends, in order to generate representative practice recommendations for the Division of Student Affairs.

**Which Student Affairs goals does this survey align with?**

SA # 6 Utilize a coordinated assessment, evaluation and research approach to promote data driven decision making.