

Psychology Report SLOAC Review Comments

Thanks for filing an assessment plan with the SLOAC. We have the following comments for you to consider:

1. Results are clear and consistent. Do you know if students who scored as “satisfactory” received that score for all categories? This may be something worth looking at more closely. And then developing interventions along the way for those students.
2. Perhaps the department should consider raising its level of expectations for students. This would be most applicable to the 50% measure for the “satisfactory” score.
3. We aren’t sure how many instructors completed the ratings. We encourage you to use more than one, so that there is more inter-rater reliability. If you use only one, please document some type of calibration procedure so you know that the scores are reliable from year to year.
4. Thanks for your attention to the grant you received and its relationship to current assessment. We’ll look forward to seeing your scores next year on those outcomes.
5. We are encouraging programs to consider ways of doing more formative assessment instead of relying only on assessment data gained during the senior seminar course. In other words, is there a course that all students take early in their careers where you can gather similar data to compare with students when they are finished with your program. As a related issue, how much do your students know about their scores on assessment? Is there a way for students to “track” their progress through your program on the outcomes. Please consider how you can move your assessment to a deeper level by considering these additions.

We do not need anything more from you for this year.

Your next report will be due on October 31, 2008.

If you wish to apply for an Instructional Improvement Grant, the deadline is January 31, 2008. Complete details are available at www.mnstate.edu/assess, click on Grants.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Jean Sando at sandoje@mnstate.edu.