2013-2014

Associate of Arts Degree

Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness
1: Critical Thinking

Outcome
Engage in purposeful reasoning to reach sound conclusions.

Learning Outcome: Yes
Related Items

M 1.1: Critical Scenario

Measure
The scenario is a problem-based assessment developed by the general education assessment committee and graded with a 5-point rubric. Scenarios are administered in a random sample of classes where the median number of credits completed is 30 or greater.

Achievement Target
Students will achieve an average score of 3.0 or above.

Findings
In the fall 2013 sample, the average score on the Critical Thinking scenario was 2.6.

Target Met?: Not Met
Targeted for Improvement?: Yes

AP 1.1.1: Critical Thinking Action Plan

Action Plan
The faculty development plan implemented in 2013-2014 included the development and delivery of campus and online workshops. To improve critical thinking as an institutional outcome, the workshops will be replaced with Professional Learning Groups (PLGs) on each campus. Facilitators will be recruited and trained by the fall of 2014 and will meet with faculty on a regular basis during the fall 2014 and spring 2015 semester. Faculty who participate in PLGs will identify best practices for teaching and assessing critical thinking and will develop a plan to implement and document the best practices in spring 2015. Additionally, the existing scenario will be revised and improved, and the critical thinking rubric will be reviewed.
1.2: ETS Proficiency Profile - Critical Thinking

Measure
The ETS Proficiency Profile is administered in a random sample of classes when the median number of credits completed is 30 or greater. The measure is the critical thinking subscore achieved by the sample of students in these classes.

Achievement Target
The average score will be at or above the 50th percentile score provided by ETS norms.

Findings
The average score on the critical thinking subscore achieved by A.A. students was 109.3, compared to the the 50th percentile score of 110.

Target Met?: Not Met
Targeted for Improvement?: Yes

1.1.1: Critical Thinking Action Plan

Action Plan
The faculty development plan implemented in 2013-2014 included the development and delivery of campus and online workshops. To improve critical thinking as an institutional outcome, the workshops will be replaced with Professional Learning Groups (PLGs) on each campus. Facilitators will be recruited and trained by the fall of 2014 and will meet with faculty on a regular basis during the fall 2014 and spring 2015 semester. Faculty who participate in PLGs will identify best practices for teaching and assessing critical thinking and will develop a plan to implement and document the best practices in spring 2015. Additionally, the existing scenario will be revised and improved, and the critical thinking rubric will be reviewed.

1.3: Graduating Student Survey

Measure
Students take a survey when applying for graduation. The measure is their self-rating on the extent to which they have achieved the Critical Thinking learning outcome. Percentage who rated "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale, where "5" is excellent.

Achievement Target
70% of students will give a rating of "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale.

Findings
Among students who applied for graduation between October 2012 and June 2013, 83% gave ratings of "4" or "5" on the 5-point scale.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: Yes
1.1.1: Critical Thinking Action Plan

Action Plan
The faculty development plan implemented in 2013-2014 included the development and delivery of campus and online workshops. To improve critical thinking as an institutional outcome, the workshops will be replaced with Professional Learning Groups (PLGs) on each campus. Facilitators will be recruited and trained by the fall of 2014 and will meet with faculty on a regular basis during the fall 2014 and spring 2015 semester. Faculty who participate in PLGs will identify best practices for teaching and assessing critical thinking and will develop a plan to implement and document the best practices in spring 2015. Additionally, the existing scenario will be revised and improved, and the critical thinking rubric will be reviewed.

2. Ethics

Outcome
Demonstrate the ability to make informed decisions based on ethical principles and reasoning.

Learning Outcome: Yes

Related Items

2.1: Ethics Scenario

Measure
The scenario is a problem-based assessment developed by the general education assessment committee and graded with a 5-point rubric. Scenarios are administered in a random sample of classes where the median number of credits completed is 30 or greater.

Achievement Target
Students will achieve an average score of 3.0 or above.

Findings
In the fall 2013 sample, the average score on the Ethics scenario was 3.0.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No
2.2: Graduating Student Survey

Measure
Students take a survey when applying for graduation. The measure is their self-rating on the extent to which they have achieved the Ethics learning outcome. Percentage who rated "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale, where "5" is excellent.

Achievement Target
70% of students will give a rating of "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale.

Findings
Among students who applied for graduation between October 2012 and June 2013, 80% gave ratings of "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No

3.: Global Awareness

Outcome
Exhibit a sense of social, cultural and global responsibility.

Learning Outcome: Yes

3.1: Global Awareness Scenario

Measure
The scenario is a problem-based assessment developed by the general education assessment committee and graded with a 5-point rubric. Scenarios are administered in a random sample of classes where the median number of credits completed is 30 or greater.

Achievement Target
Students will achieve an average score of 3.0 or above.

Findings
In the fall 2013 sample, the average score on the Global Awareness scenario was 3.1.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No
3.2: Graduating Student Survey

Measure
Students take a survey when applying for graduation. The measure is their self-rating on the extent to which they have achieved the Global Awareness learning outcome. Percentage who rated "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale, where "5" is excellent.

Achievement Target
70% of students will give a rating of "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale.

Findings
Among students who applied for graduation between October 2012 and June 2013, 76% gave ratings of "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No

4.: Information Literacy

Outcome
Demonstrate the ability to find, evaluate, organize and use information.

Learning Outcome: Yes

Related Items

4.1: Information Literacy Scenario

Measure
The scenario is a problem-based assessment developed by the general education assessment committee and graded with a 5-point rubric. Scenarios are administered in a random sample of classes where the median number of credits completed is 30 or greater.

Achievement Target
Students will achieve an average score of 3.0 or above.

Findings
In the fall 2013 sample, the average score on the Information Literacy scenario was 3.0.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No
4.2: Graduating Student Survey

Measure
Students take a survey when applying for graduation. The measure is their self-rating on the extent to which they have achieved the Information Literacy learning outcome. Percentage who rated "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale, where "5" is excellent.

Achievement Target
70% of students will give a rating of "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale.

Findings
Among students who applied for graduation between October 2012 and June 2013, 82% gave ratings of "4" or "5" on a 5-point scale.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No

5.: Performance in the State University System

Outcome
Palm Beach State A.A. graduates will perform well in their first year in the State University System (SUS).

Learning Outcome: Yes
Related Items
5.1: Average GPA

Measure
Average GPA of Palm Beach State graduates in their first year in the SUS.

Achievement Target
Greater than or equal to the FL College System average.

Findings
The Accountability Report showed that in Reporting Year 2012, PBSC students average GPA was 2.84 compared to 2.88 for the FL College System

Target Met?: Not Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No
5.2: GPAs of 2.5 or more

Measure
Percent of PBSC A.A. graduates with a GPA of 2.5 or higher in their first year in the SUS.

Achievement Target
Greater than or equal to the FL College System average.

Findings
The Accountability Report for Reporting Year 2012 showed that 70.66% of PBSC graduates attained a GPA of 2.5 or higher compared to 73.03% for the FL College System

Target Met?: Not Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No

6. : Graduation Rate

Outcome
A.A. students will complete their degrees

Learning Outcome: No
Related Items

6.1: Graduation Rate

Measure
The State of Florida publishes a graduation rate for each of the 28 FL Colleges based on tracking an FTIC cohort for four years.

Achievement Target
The College’s graduation rate for A. A. students will be greater than or equal to the average for the FL College System.

Findings
The Accountability Report showed that in the 2012 Reporting Year, Palm Beach State had an A.A. graduation rate of 39.8%, compared to 42.1% for the FL College System

Target Met?: Not Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No

7.: Percent of AA Graduates who transfer to SUS

Outcome

Learning Outcome: No
Related Items
7.1: Percent of AA grads who transfer to SUS

**Measure**
The measure first calculates the number of A.A. graduates who started at PBSC (excludes transfer students) from the student database in a given year. From the Accountability Report, calculates the number of PBSC A.A. graduates found in the SUS (State University System) in the following year. The measure is certainly a low estimate of the total percent of the College's A.A. graduates who transfer to a 4-year program as it excludes students who transfer to private colleges or out-of-state colleges or to a State College that offers four-year degrees.

**Achievement Target**
Greater than 50%

**Findings**
Among 2,234 AA grads who were not originally transfer students in 2010-11, 1,175 were found in the SUS in 2011-12.

$$\frac{1,175}{2,234} = 52.6\%$$

**Target Met?**: Met  
**Targeted for Improvement?**: No