General Education Assessment Results
2016-2017

Executive Summary

Palm Beach State College has five general education learning outcomes in the areas of communication, humanities, mathematics, natural sciences, and social sciences. The College also has four institutional outcomes that are used to measure the associate in arts (AA) degree. These outcomes are related to critical thinking, ethics, global awareness, and information literacy. All nine outcomes are considered when evaluating each program, and the reports for general education and the AA degree contain the same data and results.

General education and AA degree outcomes are assessed with a multi-measure approach using embedded assessment in all general education classes every fall, faculty-developed scenarios, which students in random samples respond to annually, and state accountability measures related to completion, transfer, and course success rates as well as grade point averages. From 2012-2017, the College’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) focused on critical thinking, so QEP assessment is also included in the 2016-2017 results.

Additionally, indirect measures are included. Approximately 400 program learning outcomes (PLOs) support the institutional learning outcomes, so the assessment of these PLOs becomes an indirect measure of general education and the AA degree. Graduating students also self-report on the Graduating Student Survey the extent to which they believe the College helped them achieve each of the nine learning outcomes. These survey results become another indirect measure of general education and the AA degree.

Achievement targets were established for 39 measures in 2016-2017 to determine the degree to which students are achieving the outcomes. Targets were met on 13 (33%) of them, and performance improved over 2015-2016 results or stayed the same on 15 targets (38%).

Students who move on to the State University System (SUS) after attending or graduating from Palm Beach State are competitive. This is evidenced by consistent and similar performance in the SUS when comparing PBSC students to students statewide. This measure is a summative measure and testament to the achievement of PBSC students and significant work done by the College to improve transfer degree outcomes. However, to ensure the College is doing all it can to maximize student success on all measures, a College-wide review of general education and AA degree outcomes will be conducted in 2017-2018 against the backdrop of current assessment results and emerging trends in higher education.

The following report includes descriptions of all measures and a comparison of results from 2014-2015 through 2016-2017. Current cycle results (2016-2017) for the general education outcomes can be viewed separately from results for the institutional outcomes that measure the AA degree, and the comparison table includes all results together.
Percent of Students who Met Course-level Benchmarks on Embedded Assessments

- **Communications (N=6040)**: 86%
- **Humanities (N=5049)**: 83%
- **Mathematics (N=6119)**: 66%
- **Natural Sciences (N=8261)**: 83%
- **Social Sciences (N=6190)**: 75%

**Communications**
90% of PBSC students were successful (graduated or currently enrolled at PBSC or 4-year college/university); met target to equal or exceed students statewide (86%)

**Mathematics**
Benchmarks were achieved on 76% of program learning outcomes that support institutional learning outcomes, an indirect measure of student achievement on those institutional outcomes; target of 70% surpassed.

**Humanities**
73% of PBSC students have GPA greater than 2.5 on a 4-point scale; did not meet target to meet or exceed students statewide (78%)

**Natural Sciences**
82% of students responded with excellent ratings when asked how well PBSC prepared them to achieve the institutional learning outcomes, another indirect measure of student achievement on those institutional outcomes; target of 70% surpassed.

**Social Sciences**

AA Outcome

1: Critical Thinking

Outcome
Engage in purposeful reasoning to reach sound conclusions.

Learning Outcome: Yes

Related Items

1.1: Critical Thinking 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 at least 3.0 on a 5-point scale; at least 70% of students will score 3 points or higher.

Findings
In 2016, 17 students responded to the critical thinking scenario and the average score for the group was 3.1 out of 5 possible points. Seven students (41%) scored a 3 or higher.

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

1.2: Program Learning Outcomes - Critical Thinking

Measure
Student achievement on program learning outcomes (PLOs) that support the institutional learning outcome related to critical thinking.

Achievement Target
Students will meet the achievement target for at least 70% of program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to critical thinking.

**Findings**
Students met the achievement target for 78% of the program learning outcomes that support critical thinking (N=331).

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

### 1.3: Graduating Student Survey - Critical Thinking

**Measure**
Percentage of graduating students who select a rating of "4" or "5" (excellent) on the *Graduating Student Survey* when they rate the extent to which the College helped them achieve the Critical Thinking learning outcome.

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

**Findings**
86% of 736 students gave ratings of at least a 4 on the 5-point scale for Critical Thinking on the *Graduating Student Survey* between May 2016 and May 2017.

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

### 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 at least 3.0 on a 5-point scale; at least 70% of students will score 3 points or higher.

Findings
In 2016, 28 students responded to the ethics scenario and the average score for the group was 2.7 out of 5 possible points. 11 students (39%) scored a 3 or more.

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

2.2: Program Learning Outcomes - Ethics

Measure
Student achievement on program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to ethics.

Achievement Target
Students will meet the achievement target for at least 70% of program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to ethics.

Findings
Students met the achievement target for 79% of program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to ethics (N=135).

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No

2.3: Graduating Student Survey - Ethics
Measure
Percentage of graduating students who select a rating of "4" or "5" (excellent) on the Graduating Student Survey when they rate the extent to which the College helped them achieve the Ethics learning outcome.

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

Findings
83% of 732 students gave ratings of at least a 4 on the 5-point scale for Ethics on the Graduating Student Survey between May 2016 and May 2017.

Target Met?: Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No

3: Global Awareness

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

Learning Outcome: Yes

Related Items
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 at least 3.0 on a 5-point scale; at least 70% of students will score 3 points or higher.

Findings
In 2016, 8 students responded to the global awareness scenario and the average score for the group
was 2.7 out of 5 possible points. Three of the five students (38%) scored at least 3 points.

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

### 3.2: Program Learning Outcomes - Global Awareness

**Measure**  
Student achievement on program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to global awareness.

**Achievement Target**  
Students will meet the achievement target for at least 70% of program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to global awareness.

**Findings**  
Students met the achievement target for 80% of program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to global awareness (N=87).

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

### 3.3: Graduating Student Survey - Global Awareness

**Measure**  
Percentage of graduating students who select a rating of "4" or "5" (excellent) on the *Graduating Student Survey* when they rate the extent to which the College helped them achieve the Global Awareness learning outcome.

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

**Findings**  
78% of 734 students gave ratings of at least a 4 on the 5-point scale for Global Awareness on the *Graduating Student Survey* between May 2016 and May 2017.
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 at least 3.0 on a 5-point scale; at least 70% of students will score 3 points or higher.

Findings
In 2016, 13 students responded to the information literacy scenario and the average score for the group was 2.6 out of 5 possible points. Six students (46%) scored at least 3 points.

- Information Literacy will continue to be targeted and address through libraries. Library staff will continue to hold seats on the Assessment Committee and improve instructional events for ENC1101 students.

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

4.2: Program Learning Outcomes - Information Literacy

Measure
Student achievement on program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to information literacy.

**Achievement Target**
Students will meet the achievement target for at least 70% of program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to information literacy.

**Findings**
Students met the achievement target for 68% of program learning outcomes that support the institutional learning outcome related to information literacy (N=113).

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

### 4.3: Graduating Student Survey - Information Literacy

**Measure**
Percentage of graduating students who select a rating of "4" or "5" (excellent) on the *Graduating Student Survey* when they rate the extent to which the College helped them achieve the Information Literacy learning outcome.

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

**Findings**
83% of 728 students gave ratings of at least a 4 on the 5-point scale for Information Literacy on the *Graduating Student Survey* between May 2016 and May 2017.

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

### 5: Associate Degree Graduates' Performance in State University System

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

Learning Outcome: No
Related Items

5.1: Grade Point Average in State University System

Measure
Average grade point average of Palm Beach State graduates in their first year in the State University System

Achievement Target
Palm Beach State College graduates (with an associate in arts degree) will have a GPA greater than or equal to that of the statewide average for Florida College System graduates.

Findings
In 2016, the mean GPA of students who graduated with an associate in arts degree from PBSC was 2.86 compared to 2.98 for all students who graduated from the Florida College System.

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

5.2: Percent of Students with GPA > 2.5

Measure
Percent of PBSC associate in arts degree graduates with a GPA of 2.5 or higher in their first year in the SUS

Achievement Target
The percent of associate in arts degree graduates from PBSC with a GPA of at least 2.5 will be greater than or equal to the percent of Florida system graduates.

Findings
In 2016, 73% of graduates from PBSC had GPAs of at least 2.5 compared to 78% statewide.

Target Met?: Not Met
Targeted for Improvement?: No
6: Graduation Rate

Outcome
Associate in arts students will complete their degrees.

Learning Outcome: No

Related Items

6.1: Graduation Rate

Measure
Graduation rate for PBSC students who complete their associate in arts degree as published by the State of Florida published graduation rate for each of the 28 FL Colleges based on tracking an FTIC cohort for four years.

Achievement Target
Students will complete their associate of arts degrees from PBSC at a rate greater than or equal to the average for the Florida College System.

Findings
In 2016, PBSC students attained a 42% graduation rate compared to 43% statewide. The president continues to make improving completion a high priority College-wide. Numerous efforts were implemented in 2015-2016 or 2016-2017 and will be continued in the 2017-2018 cycle.

- Addition of Starfish, a case-management product, to track students and promote early intervention when alerted
- Grant initiatives, such as Innovate, to target vulnerable populations and support them through completion
- Summer bridge programs, such as "Math Jump" and "Jump into Writing" to increase foundational skills in math and writing courses
- Campaigns to identify and reach out to students who are near completion but not enrolled

Target Met?: Not Met
Targeted for Improvement?: Yes
General Education Report

Gen Ed Outcomes

Communications

Outcome
Demonstrate effective communication skills for a variety of audiences.

Comments

Summary of Results

Embedded Assessment: Target was met for percent of students achieving course-level benchmarks (80% of students will score at least "3" on the 5-point scale); 86% of students scored at least 3 out of the 5 points. Target was unmet for mean score converted to a percentage (at least 80%); the mean score was 73% (N=6040). Embedded assessment is administered to students in all general education classes during the fall semester.

Scenarios: Target not met for percent of students meeting benchmark (70% of students will score at least "3" on the 5-point scale); 60% of students scored at least 3 out of the 5 points (N=45). Target not met for average score (at least "3" on the 5-point scale); average score was 2.9. 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 the fall semester in a random sample of classes where the median number of credits completed is 30 or greater.

Program Learning Outcomes: Overall target to meet benchmark on at least 70% of the program learning outcomes supporting communications was met with 78% of these outcomes (N=162) having met target. PLOs are assessed year-round in all career-oriented AS degree and PSAV programs.

Graduating Student Survey: Target was met for achieving high ratings (at least 70% of graduates will give a rating of at least 4 on a 5 point scale) for the degree to which the College helped them achieve the Communications learning outcome; 85% of respondents gave a rating of 4 or 5 (N=735). The Graduating Student Survey is available to all students who apply for graduation each semester.

Communications will continue to be targeted for improvement at the cluster level with a focus on integrating common essential skill sets.
Humanities

Outcome
Demonstrate an awareness of and an ability to effectively analyze creative works.

Comments
Summary of Results

Embedded Assessment: Target was met for percent of students achieving course-level benchmarks (80% of students will meet the course-level benchmarks in their humanities courses) as 83% of students scored at least 3 out of the 5 points. Target was unmet for mean score converted to a percentage (at least 80%) as the mean score was 78% (N=5049). Embedded assessment is administered to students in all general education classes during the fall semester.

Program Learning Outcomes: Overall target to meet benchmark on at least 70% of the program learning outcomes supporting humanities was met with 73% of these outcomes (N=33) having met target. PLOs are assessed year-round in all career-oriented AS degree and PSAV programs.

Graduating Student Survey: Target was met for achieving high ratings (at least 70% of graduates will give a rating of at least 4 on a 5-point scale) for the degree to which the College helped them achieve the Humanities learning outcome as 82% of respondents gave a 4 or 5 rating (N=732). The Graduating Student Survey is available to all students who apply for graduation each semester.

Mathematics

Outcome
Demonstrate an understanding of mathematical concepts to solve real-world problems.

Comments
Summary of Results

Embedded Assessment: Target was unmet for percent of students achieving course-level benchmarks (80%
of students will achieve the course-level benchmarks in their mathematics courses); 66% of students met the course level benchmarks. Target was unmet for mean score converted to a percentage (at least 80%); the mean score was 62% (N=6119). Embedded assessment is administered to students in all general education classes during the fall semester.

**Scenarios:** Target was met for percent of students meeting benchmark (70% of students will score at least "3" on the 5-point scale); 74% of students scored at least 3 out of the 5 points (N=19). Target was met for average score (at least "3" on the 5-point scale); average score was 3.1. 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 the fall semester in a random sample of classes where the median number of credits completed is 30 or greater.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Overall target to meet benchmark on at least 70% of the program learning outcomes supporting mathematics was unmet with 68% of these outcomes (N=98) having met target. PLOs are assessed year-round in all career-oriented AS degree and PSAV programs.

**Graduating Student Survey:** Target was met for achieving high ratings (at least 70% of graduates will give a rating of at least 4 on a 5 point scale) for the degree to which the College helped them achieve the Mathematics learning outcome; 79% of respondents gave a rating of 4 or 5 (N=731). The Graduating Student Survey is available to all students who apply for graduation each semester.

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**Natural Sciences**

**Outcome**
Demonstrate comprehension of fundamental concepts, principles or processes about the natural world.

**Comments**
Summary of Results

Embedded Assessment: Target was met for percent of students achieving course-level benchmarks (80% of students will achieve the course-level benchmarks in their natural science courses) as 83% of students scored at least 3 out of the 5 points. Target was unmet for mean score converted to a percentage (at least 80%) as the mean score was 77% (N=8261). Embedded assessment is administered to students in all general education classes during the fall semester.

Program Learning Outcomes: Overall target to meet benchmark on at least 70% of the program learning outcomes supporting natural sciences was met with 78% of these outcomes (N=78) having met target. PLOs are assessed year-round in all career-oriented AS degree and PSAV programs.

Graduating Student Survey: Target was met for achieving high ratings (at least 70% of graduates will give a rating of at least 4 on a 5-point scale) for the degree to which the College helped them achieve the Natural Sciences learning outcome as 79% of respondents gave a rating of 4 or 5 (N=729). The Graduating Student Survey is available to all students who apply for graduation each semester.

Social Sciences

Outcome
Understand and apply sociological, cultural, political, psychological, historical and economic principles to a global environment.

Comments

Summary of Results

Embedded Assessment: Target was unmet for percent of students achieving course-level benchmarks (80% of students will achieve the course-level benchmarks in their social science courses) as 75% of students met the course-level benchmark. Target was unmet for mean score converted to a percentage (at least 80%) as the mean score was 73% (N=6180). Embedded assessment is administered to students in all general education classes during the fall semester.

Program Learning Outcomes: Overall target to meet benchmark on at least 70% of the program learning outcomes supporting social sciences was met with 72% of these outcomes (N=36) having met target. PLOs are assessed year-round in all career-oriented AS degree and PSAV programs.
**Graduating Student Survey:** Target was met for achieving high ratings (at least 70% of graduates will give a rating of at least 4 on a 5-point scale) for the degree to which the College helped them achieve the Social Sciences learning outcome as 83% of respondents gave a rating of 4 or 5 (N=730). The Graduating Student Survey is available to all students who apply for graduation each semester.
Assessment Results Comparison: 2014-15 through 2016-17
General Education and the Associate in Arts Degree

(Bold results indicate competency; achievement target met or exceeded)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure*</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>2014-2015 Results</th>
<th>2015-2016 Results</th>
<th>2016-2017 Results (Current Cycle)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Embedded Assessment</td>
<td>Gen Ed</td>
<td>≥ 80% students meet course benchmark Mean score (as percent) ≥ 80%</td>
<td>N=27,493</td>
<td>N=31,845</td>
<td>N=31,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Gen Ed</td>
<td>≥ 80% students meet course benchmark Mean score (as percent) ≥ 80%</td>
<td>81% 73%</td>
<td>82% 74%</td>
<td>79% 73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Gen Ed</td>
<td>≥ 80% students meet course benchmark Mean score (as percent) ≥ 80%</td>
<td>88% 74%</td>
<td>88% 73%</td>
<td>86% 73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Gen Ed</td>
<td>≥ 80% students meet course benchmark Mean score (as percent) ≥ 80%</td>
<td>81% 76%</td>
<td>81% 78%</td>
<td>83% 77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
<td>Gen Ed</td>
<td>≥ 80% students meet course benchmark Mean score (as percent) ≥ 80%</td>
<td>60% 58%</td>
<td>63% 62%</td>
<td>65% 62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>Gen Ed</td>
<td>≥ 80% students meet course benchmark Mean score (as percent) ≥ 80%</td>
<td>85% 78%</td>
<td>88% 80%</td>
<td>83% 77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenarios Results</td>
<td>Gen Ed</td>
<td>≥ 70% students score ≥ 3 out of 5 pts; mean ≥ 3 (combined general education scenarios)</td>
<td>Not assessed in Fall 2014</td>
<td>81%; mean=3.1 (N=208)</td>
<td>59%; mean=2.9 (N=64***)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>≥ 70% students score ≥ 3 out of 5 points; mean ≥ 3</td>
<td>44%; mean=2.8 (N=372)</td>
<td>73%; mean=2.8 (N=405)</td>
<td>41%; mean=2.8 (N=66***)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>≥ 70% students score ≥ 3 out of 5 points; mean ≥ 3</td>
<td>47%; mean=2.9 (N=393)</td>
<td>75%; mean=2.9 (N=420)</td>
<td>41%; mean=3.1 (N=66***)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>≥ 70% students score ≥ 3 out of 5 points</td>
<td>45%; mean=2.8 (N=393)</td>
<td>72%; mean=2.8 (N=420)</td>
<td>39%; mean=2.7 (N=66***)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>≥ 70% students score ≥ 3 out of 5 points</td>
<td>43%; mean=2.7 (N=393)</td>
<td>71%; mean=2.7 (N=420)</td>
<td>38%; mean=2.7 (N=66***)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Awareness</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>≥ 70% students score ≥ 3 out of 5 points</td>
<td>39%; mean=2.8 (N=393)</td>
<td>70%; mean=2.8 (N=420)</td>
<td>46%; mean=2.6 (N=66***)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Literacy</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>≥ 70% students score ≥ 3 out of 5 points</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Measure 1a: Success Rates</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>Students will meet/exceed state average</td>
<td>PBSC 89.27% FCS 84.20%</td>
<td>PBSC 89.75% FCS 84.84%</td>
<td>PBSC 89.52% FCS 85.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Measure 1b: Completion Rates</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>Students will meet/exceed state average</td>
<td>PBSC 42.54% FCS 40.28%</td>
<td>PBSC 44.96% FCS 41.51%</td>
<td>PBSC 42.27% FCS 42.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Measure 2: Average GPA</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>Students will meet/exceed state average</td>
<td>PBSC 2.86</td>
<td>PBSC 2.83</td>
<td>PBSC 2.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Measure 3: Percent GPA &gt;2.5</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>Students will meet/exceed state average</td>
<td>PBSC 73.63% FCS 73.09%</td>
<td>PBSC 72.08% FCS 74.85%</td>
<td>PBSC 72.74% FCS 78.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO Results</td>
<td>Gen Ed AA Degree</td>
<td>Achievement target met on ≥ 70% of supporting measures</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>76% (75% Gen Ed; 77% AA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GS Survey</td>
<td>Gen Ed AA Degree</td>
<td>≥ 70% of students will rate all outcomes with scores of “4” or “5”</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>82% (82% for both Gen Ed and AA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QEP: Critical thinking</td>
<td>AA Degree</td>
<td>Course-level assessment (QEP faculty)</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>82% (82% for both Gen Ed and AA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QEP Faculty only: Average score ≥ 3.3</td>
<td>Gen Ed Literature: Average score ≥ 3.0</td>
<td>3.8 (N=1530)</td>
<td>3.7 (3 courses) 3.8 (N=2139)</td>
<td>3.9 (10 courses) 3.9 (N=2305)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCTDI*: Improve annually (N=100-200 per year)</td>
<td>CCSS**: Meet/exceed previous results</td>
<td>295.2/420 2.68/5 (2011)</td>
<td>2.39/2.81/2.91 (2011; N=1598)</td>
<td>304.5/420 2.69/5 (2016)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet/exceed CCSS national benchmark on Questions 4, 5, and 12e</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2.40/2.79/2.99 (2016; N=1566)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Descriptions of measures and use of results are on next page.

**An attempt was made in Fall 2016 to move testing online and make participation voluntary. However, the response rate was only about 4% (Communications=45; Math=19; Critical Thinking=17; Ethics=28; Global Awareness=8; Information Literacy=13). This format will not be repeated. Instead, scenarios will be replaced in Fall 2018.
General Education and the Associate in Arts Degree
Description of Assessment Measures
2014-15 through 2016-17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Embedded Assessment</td>
<td>Faculty-developed instruments; administered in all general education classes each fall term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenarios</td>
<td>Faculty-developed instruments; random samples until 2016-2017 when moved online and not mandatory; response rate &lt;4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Measures; Success</td>
<td>percent of students at PBSC and in Florida College System (FCS) who graduated, left in good standing, or are enrolled in good standing</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Measures; Completion</td>
<td>percent of students at PBSC and in Florida College System (FCS) who graduated with an AA degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Measures; GPA</td>
<td>average GPA and percent with GPA &gt; 2.5 among students at PBSC and in Florida College System (FCS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO Results</td>
<td>all programs indicate whether each program learning outcome (PLO) supports institutional outcomes (indirect measure for gen ed/AA degree)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduating Student (GS) Survey</td>
<td>GS Survey asks students to rate how well PBSC helped them achieve each institutional learning outcome (indirect measure for gen ed/AA degree)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)</td>
<td>QEP focused on critical thinking from 2012-2017; assessment results were included as AA degree measures for critical thinking; CCTDI is Critical Thinking Disposition Inventory; CCSSE is Community College Survey of Student Engagement</td>
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Use of Results

Much annual data has been collected over the last several years, which combined, can be used to evaluate the general education and associate in arts degree as programs. Students may be deemed competent as many benchmarks are met or exceeded annually. However, the annual cycle is not proving to be sufficiently beneficial to faculty; there is not enough time to develop improvement strategies and implement the same before reassessing. Additionally, there are concerns that current results may no longer adequately capture learning. Accordingly, in the 2017-2018 assessment cycle, significant process changes will occur simultaneous to a systemic review of the philosophy, outcomes, and assessment to measure the outcomes in general education and the AA degree.

- General education embedded assessment will move to a two year cycle with reporting in the even spring semesters, and results will be reviewed by all faculty in the even fall semesters. This will allow a full year to implement improvement strategies in between assessments.
- Scenarios will be replaced with instruments that can more accurately capture student learning related to institutional outcomes that measure the AA degree.
- Results of the College-wide review will be combined with the available assessment results and used to inform decisions regarding outcomes revisions, selection of scenarios replacement, and targeted improvement strategies.
- The General Education and Assessment Committee (Assessment Committee) will develop more faculty initiatives to allow faculty to review and improve discipline-specific methods of instruction and assessment that support the institution-level outcomes.
- Software to assist in data presentation to faculty will be reviewed and adopted in 2017-2018.
- Communications will continue to be targeted at the cluster level with a focus on integrating common essential skill sets.
- Information Literacy will continue to be targeted and addressed through libraries. Library staff will continue to hold seats on the Assessment Committee and improve instructional events for ENC1101 students.