



OASIS Learning Communities

Public

Name of Assessment OASIS Learning Communities

Project:

**Name(s) of Person(s)
Responsible for
Assessment Project:**

Role
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Providing OASIS

Department:

Other

Units/Departments

Involved in

Assessment Project:

Program, Service, or Event Related to Assessment Project

This assessment project is linked to the OASIS Learning Communities (OLCs). OLCs are comprised of students who participate in the OASIS Transition Programs (Summer Bridge, Academic Transition Program, TRiO Student Support Services Program and TRiO SSSP Summer Transition Enrichment Program). OLCs are only offered to entering freshmen and transfers during their first year at UCSD.

OLCs are one-hour a week, non-credit bearing seminars that are highly interactive and collaborative. An OASIS professional staff member, undergraduate student mentors, and staff from the six colleges facilitate the seminars.

Most OLCs enroll students according to their UCSD college. Transfer students participate in the Transfer OLC, and learn more about the resources and services specific to them.

OLCs help link coursework, academic support, and socio-cultural transition to UC San Diego in a manner that maximizes learning experiences.

Additional benefits include participation in other academic year services, provided by OASIS' tutorial services and transition programs, such as:

- One-to-one conferences with staff
- Academic workshops for courses students are enrolled in
- Referrals to other campus departments

Assessment Project Description

The main purpose of the assessment project was to assess the skills that students are gaining from participation in the OASIS Learning Communities. The assessment was meant to have students rate the skills they gained both academically as well as socially. The assessment was given to two cohorts of participating students (2012-13 and 2011-12) in order to gauge if their understanding of the skills they acquired changed as they continued through their academic career. Results will be

used to strengthen and improve our program services.

Unit/Program Specific Goals and Learning Outcomes

As a result of participating in the OASIS Learning Communities students will be able to:

- Demonstrate increased problem solving skills by organizing, planning, and carrying out a multi-step solution through participation in OASIS tutorial workshops
- Display critical thinking skills by showing the ability to break down a concept or complex idea through participation in OASIS tutorial workshops
- Increase willingness to understand and appreciate the value of contributing to and gaining from working with others, through participation in various OASIS services
- Demonstrate increased confidence in articulating own ideas in a logical way through writing during individual tutorial sessions
- Describe healthy strategies to approach the stresses of the transition to college and to work towards achieving a balance between the social, academic and personal elements of college life, through learning community seminar discussions
- Develop greater self-awareness through one-to-one meetings with an OASIS peer mentor
- Increase co-curricular involvement that contributes to learning through participation in OASIS services
- Increase awareness of and commitment to social justice through participation in OASIS services

Relationship to Student Affairs Learning Outcomes: Think Critically and Solve Problems, Communicate Effectively, Advance a Plan for Personal, Academic, and Professional Success, Lead in a Diverse Global Society, Engage in a Healthy Lifestyle, Promote Social Justice and Community Responsibility

Assessment Project Start: 1/7/2013

Assessment Project End: 6/30/2013

Population/Sample

Student who participated in OASIS Learning Communities were surveyed. These students represented a sample of low-income, first-generation, quintile 4&5, historically underrepresented minorities. This study will focused on first year freshmen and transfers as well as second year students and transfers. 405 students were invited to participate of which 212 completed the survey.

Type of Assessment: Student learning outcomes and/or behavioral outcomes

Other Assessment Type(s):

Assessment Methods: Surveys

Other Assessment Method(s):

Data Collection Tools

Current students were surveying through a CampusLabs survey during their learning communities

seminars. Second year students were emailed the CampusLabs survey.

Data Analysis Methods

Students were asked to rank the skills they felt they gained at a higher level on academic and social levels. The data collected was analyzed to determine which skills students gained the most and which are lacking.

Presentation of Findings

Results of this assessment were shared with OASIS Learning Communities staff to improve the program. In the future, results may also be shared with the Student Fee Advisory Committee.

Progress:  100%

Link Assessment Project in Campus Labs Baseline

Source Name	Project Name
All project data	OASIS Learning Communities Assessment 2013

Summary of Findings

Our assessment of OASIS Learning Communities (OLC's) features consistent, positive responses by participating students (freshmen and transfers) in 2012-13 across a number of learning outcomes. Of the 52.3% of students who completed the survey, it was found that 88.5% agreed or strongly agreed that as a result of participating in OASIS services, they had gained a sense of belonging to the UCSD campus. Furthermore, 95.5% are more aware of campus resources and how to utilize them, 92.5% of students were clearer about their goals, and 79.5% of students were involved in more campus activities as a result of their participation with OASIS Learning Communities.

Upon further evaluation, we noted that these outcomes also include problem-solving strategies in math and chemistry, ability to work collaboratively with peers, communication skills, conceptual reading and writing, stress prevention and relief, self awareness, balance between academics and social life, commitment to social justice, and sense of belonging. Students' comments in response to open-ended questions provide more detail on OASIS' significant contribution to the holistic learning and development of OLC students.

Impact of Assessment

Although still early in the process, OASIS staff are reviewing the results to identify refinements we can make in the OLC's before they resume for a new group of students in fall 2013. Both structure and content of OLC's are analyzed. The assessment results also provide direction toward the need for OASIS services that extend into students' second-year experience. OASIS staff will identify strategies for additional dissemination of these results.

Lessons Learned

We found it difficult to gather responses from 2011-12 OLC students more than a year removed from their participation. Next time we will likely focus on currently participating students. Although our response rate was good (128 freshmen and 16 transfers, more than half of each participating cohort), we will also develop refined strategies to gather data from participating students.

Items This Assessment Template Supports

Type	Number	Name	Start Date	End Date	Provider
Divisional Objective	13	UC San Diego Enrolls Increasing Numbers of Well Qualified & Diverse Students Through Innovated Yield Efforts	07/01/2011	06/30/2015	Student Affairs
Divisional Objective	22	Improved Retention & Graduation	07/01/2011	06/30/2015	Student Affairs
Action	2211	Implement recommendations of UGASS committee to improve coordination between all campus units providing academic support services and information regarding such services to students, including creating and maintaining a consolidated website (PV, OASIS)(X)	07/01/2011	06/30/2015	Student Affairs
Action	2212	Act on UGASS recommendations to establish central campus learning center in collaboration with academic departments/colleges to provide academic support (PV, OASIS) (X) (3)	07/01/2011	06/30/2015	Student Affairs

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