

## 2011 Assessment Spotlight Review

This 2011 Assessment Spotlight Review presents the Spotlight Purpose, Presentation Design, Preparation, Program, Spotlight Feedback, and Plans for a 2012 Spotlight. Links are provided in this Review to the PowerPoint template, Assessment Spotlight Program, and the PowerPoint Presentations.

### Spotlight Purpose

The Spotlight is an opportunity for members of the University community to hear about projects from curricular and co-curricular units. Presenters describe ways in which collected evidence was and will be used to improve student learning and the quality of service.

### Spotlight Presentation Design

The Assessment Spotlight, which occurred on May 13, 2011, was designed to be a learning event. Members of the University community were invited to prepare and present assessment experiences. A PowerPoint template was provided to assist with the presentation of information and to provide for a consistency of format content. Presenters shared assessment highlights using a format that included the following four topics:

- **Purpose:** Describe the issue that was investigated;
- **Process:** Describe the strategies used and key people involved;
- **End Result:** Describe the results and corresponding changes made;
- **Lessons Learned:** Describe the lessons learned and suggest advice to others based on experience.

The presentation format encouraged presenters to portray ways in which assessment is a part of our practice at CSU Stanislaus. Presenters prepared and presented their information and stories and both successes and learning experiences were shared. Attendees were encouraged to listen for implications and opportunities the presenters' goals would have on their programs or units.

### Spotlight Preparation

The Faculty Coordinator for Assessment of Student Learning introduced the idea of the Assessment Spotlight. Members of the Core Assessment Team discussed the presentation format and dates for the event. Invitations to present and attend the event were discussed and distributed to the Assessment of Leadership Team, Council of Deans, Academic Senate, Program Assessment Coordinators, and electronically to the campus community.

### Spotlight Program

The Spotlight began at 8:30am in the Mary Stuart Rogers Building. The Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs welcomed presenters and attendees and reviewed the purpose of the Assessment Spotlight. The Spotlight featured several presentations of model practices by four of the academic departments, as well as by the offices of Service Learning, Institutional Research, and the Library.

Each presentation occurred within a 15 to 20 minute period which included time for questions. The presentations reflected assessment occurring throughout the University – in both curricular and co-curricular units. The sessions concluded at noon with a roundtable discussion with the Provost followed by lunch.

Attendees included the California State University, Stanislaus Provost, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the College of the Arts, Director of the Office of Institutional Research, Director of the Office of Service Learning, Director of Budget and Special Projects, Director of Legislative, Foundation and Corporate Relations, Faculty and Staff.

### Spotlight Feedback

Feedback from attendees was requested on the *Learning Together* feedback form and 11 responses were received. Feedback was collected in four categories and a summary of responses in each of the four categories follows:

1. *Words to describe the Assessment Spotlight Experience.* Within the 11 responses, 35 words were generated. The abundance of positive comments are evident in the following six categories (frequency of responses and percentage):
  - **Informative/educational** (9 or 82%)
  - **Inspiring and / or Enlightening** (8 or 73%)
  - **Interesting** (5 or 45%)
  - **Practical** (5 or 45%)
  - **Collaborative/team-building** (3 or 27%)
  - **Diverse/broad input** (3 or 27%)
2. *Spotlight improvements suggested for next year.*

It is evident through responses received from participants and attendees that the purpose of the first annual Assessment Spotlight was accomplished. Assessment evidence was provided, including ways in which the evidence was and will be used to improve student learning and the quality of service. Members of the University community supported the Spotlight by presenting/attending and connections were made between curricular and co-curricular units.
3. *Possible actions resulting from the Assessment Spotlight.*

Feedback revealed a desire to increase ties between academic programs, Institutional Research and the University Library and to investigate technology options to improve the assessment of student learning.
4. *Phrases to describe something learned/taken away from the Assessment Spotlight.*

Responses reveal an increased awareness of campus assessment activities, particularly concerning the work of Service Learning, and increased knowledge of the types of indirect and direct assessment being used across campus.

### 2012 Spotlight

Planning for the next Spotlight has begun and will incorporate feedback from respondents in order to continue to develop the University's culture of assessment.

Based on feedback from the 2011 Spotlight, the following changes will be made:

- Move the Spotlight to an earlier date (possibly April) to allow for additional presenters and attendees.
- Investigate the possibility of a poster session.
- Expand the call for participants to include a larger percentage of curricular and co-curricular units.