

Administrative Assessment Case Study: Center for Learning and Research

Scenario: The Center for Learning and Research was founded two years ago. In order to get funding, they developed a mission, goals, and objectives. Now they want to complete their assessment forms in order to document their results.

Mission: The mission of the Center for Learning and Research is to advance the understanding of learning by conducting research on brain development and learning. In order to serve the local community, the Center will engage with various teaching and learning institutions and stakeholders to provide information about the science of learning.

Goals:

1. Expand research on learning and brain development.
2. Engage the local community by communicating results of learning and brain development research.

Assessment Plan

Outcome #1

Intended Outcome:

The findings from the latest study on learning and brain plasticity will be used to inform local stakeholders about new strategies for increasing learning.

Assessment (PLANS) Methods

Means of Assessment:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A database will be used to record and track faculty publications.2. A log will be used to list all seminars and workshop held in local constituencies.3. A survey will be distributed at the end of the workshop consisting of 7 open ended questions relating to their knowledge of the research findings and satisfaction with the workshop.
Criteria for Success:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Faculty at the Center will submit articles to at least 3 journals by the end of spring 2012.2. A minimum of 6 seminars and/or workshops about the findings from the latest publication on learning and brain plasticity will be held at local universities and high schools by spring 2012.3. High school teachers at the workshops will successfully identify at least 3 out of the 5 learning strategies presented by the end of the session.

Assessment Report

Findings:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The criterion was met. Faculty submitted a total of 4 articles to peer reviewed journals. So far, 2 of the articles have been accepted for publication.2. The criterion was not met. Only a total of 4 seminars or workshops were held: 2 seminars were offered at local universities and 2 workshops were offered for high school teachers. One other seminar and two other workshops were scheduled, but they were cancelled due to low enrollment.3. Criterion was met. High school teacher correctly identified an average of 3.1 strategies correctly.
Use of Results:
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In addition to journal publications, we will expect to complete a first draft of book based on the current research findings to be completed by the next assessment cycle.2. Since the second criterion was not met, we will strive to increase participation by advertising events 3 weeks in advance and creating partnerships with local high schools and universities to create events.3. Furthermore, we will create a worksheet identifying the 5 learning strategies to be distributed prior to the workshop to enhance the learning of the teachers participating and to increase the average score.