As with prior years, AY 2009-10 witnessed increased demands being placed on the Office of Institutional Research and Evaluation (OIR&E). In keeping with tradition, I'm pleased to report that the staff worked diligently to meet the demand. The year also witnessed changes within the office with the departure and arrival of staff members. The number and diversity of the projects completed by members of the OIR&E team was comparable to past years. I am particularly pleased with the fact that OIR&E was once again able to provide support and services to every school (Arts & Sciences, Cummings, Dental, Engineering, Fletcher, Friedman, Medical, Sackler, and Tisch College) and division (Advancement, External Relations, Finance, Human Resources, Operations, Public Safety and UIT) within the university. Time and attention was devoted to supporting several major initiatives and committees:

1) oversight & coordination to assure that the university is in compliance with the myriad of new reporting and disclosure requirements in the Higher Education Opportunity Act
2) coordination of all schools to insure that university is meeting the requirements outlined in the New England of Schools and Colleges Accreditation Standard 4
3) the Monitoring and Evaluation team for the USAID RESPOND grant
4) the Committee on Evaluation of Educational Outcomes in Arts and Sciences
5) the Engineering Educational Objectives and Outcomes Assessment Committee
6) the Cummings Outcomes Assessment Committee
7) the Dental School Outcomes Assessment Committee
8) the Colonial Group
9) the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) U-CAN (the University and College Accountability Network) project
10) Evaluation component of the Tufts Clinical Translational Science Institute (CTSI)
11) Evaluation of the Tufts Campus Suicide Prevention Grant, funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA)
12) Coordination of student-related issues for the Provost’s Office

During the course of the year, members of the staff were involved with well over 100 projects. These included a variety of outcomes assessment projects, consultation on research design, survey development and administration, preparation of decision support materials, and program evaluations.

Members of the staff also provided evaluation guidance and support to faculty and administrators as they prepared several major grant proposals. In addition, OIR&E processed an ever increasing number of independent data requests. Following is a sample of the many on-going activities and new initiatives that were undertaken during the 2009-2010 academic year.

**RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

Numerous projects were undertaken to assess various aspects of the undergraduate program, as well as to provide support to the graduate and professional schools. Following is a partial list of projects.

**Admissions:**
- AS&E Undergraduate Accepted Applicant Matriculant Survey & analysis
- AS&E Undergraduate Accepted Applicant Non-Matriculant Survey & analysis
- AS&E Undergraduate Inquiry Survey & analysis

**Alumni Surveys & Analysis:**
- Cummings
- Dental
- Engineering
- Friedman Alumni & Friends
Medical – post grad year 1
Tisch College Alumni Civic & Political Attitudes Survey
Young Alumni AS&E

Evaluations:
Clinical Translational Science Institute (NIH)
Response to Emerging Infectious Diseases (RESPOND, USAID)
Suicide Prevention Grant (SAMHSA)
Tisch Scholars Program
Tufts Post-Baccalaureate Research Education Program (NIGMS)

Student Experience Studies:
AS&E First Year Orientation Survey & analysis
AS&E Retention Study
AS&E Senior Survey & analysis
A&S Pre-major Advising Survey & analysis
A&S Sophomore Experience Survey & analysis
Cummings Entering Student Survey & analysis
Cummings Exit Survey & analysis
Cummings Residency Survey & analysis
Engineering First Year Pre-major Advising Survey & analysis
Engineering Sophomore Experience Survey & analysis
Fletcher First Year Student Survey & analysis
Fletcher Exiting Student Survey & analysis
GSAS & GSOE Exit Survey & analysis
Tisch College Civic & Political Attitudes Survey

Student Services & Academic Programs:
Africana Center - student focus groups
AS&E analysis of AMCAS data
Cummings Third & Fourth Year Outcomes Exams
Dental Post-Treatment Plan Analysis
Political Science – Green Cities Survey
Tisch Library Student Satisfaction Survey
Tisch Library Faculty & Staff Satisfaction Survey

Administrative support:
COACHE Faculty Survey & analysis
Dining Services -- Student Satisfaction Survey & analysis
Faculty Salary – comparative analysis
Friedman NEASC RAK accreditation
Open Courseware User Survey & analysis
Public Safety - multiple surveys & analysis
Purchasing User Survey & analysis
University Dashboard
Work Life Task Force
UNIVERSITY-WIDE COORDINATION ACTIVITIES & SHORT TERM PROJECTS

Throughout the year, the office has been called upon to provide both the coordination and collection of university-wide level information. Both internal and external constituencies use this information. Activities that fall under this category include:

- Preparation & distribution of the Fact Book and Fast Facts (mini fact book)
- American Association of University Professors Annual Survey of Faculty Compensations
- College Sports Project
- College & University Personnel Association Faculty Salary Survey
- National Research Council (NRC) Assessment of Research & Doctoral Program
- National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)
- New England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEASC)
- New England Board of Higher Education Annual Survey
- U-CAN
- U.S. Department of Education IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) data collection

A variety of short-term projects were completed for several organizations within the Tufts community. These included providing responses to an ever increasing number of informational surveys, providing evaluation and survey design consultation, gathering comparative and/or longitudinal information for a number of individuals or offices including, but not limited to, the President, the Provost; the Executive Vice President; various offices within Arts & Sciences; the School of Engineering; Information Technology; University Advancement; Alumni Relations; Public Relations, Operations; the Budget office; and numerous academic departments.
There is institutional research representation on the following university committees: Academic Council, Administrative Council, Provost’s Council, University Committee on Teaching and Faculty Development, Medford Campus IRB, AS&E Admissions & Financial Aid Committee, Committee on Evaluation of Educational Outcomes in Arts and Sciences, Engineering Educational Objectives and Outcomes Assessment Committee, Faculty Information System Committee, IT Advisory Committee, Information Stewardship Committee, NEASC 2013 Graduate & Professional Program Assessment project, TCSVM Outcomes Assessment Committee, TUSDM Outcomes Assessment Committee, and Tufts Open Courseware Steering Committee. In addition, I serve as the University’s accreditation liaison officer to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

This year OIR&E experienced the loss of long-time staff member Susan Storm, who passed away in March. Susan’s life was celebrated by members of the Tufts community at a well-attended memorial service. In May, OIR&E welcomed Lynne Freeman as our new institutional research coordinator.

Members of the staff took advantage of a number of professional development opportunities throughout the past year. Several members of the staff presented papers at national and regional professional meetings: Meredith Billings (2009 Assessment Institute, AIR, and NEAIR), Melanie Jenkins (AIR) and Dawn Geronimo Terkla (2009 Assessment Institute, AIR, Hollings Center for International Discourse Higher Education Dialogue, NEAIR Summer Workshop instructor, and NEAIR). Meredith was awarded the Best First Paper
Award for the paper she presented at the 2009 North East Association of Institutional Research Meeting. In addition, Meredith completed two graduate level courses: Organizational Decision Making in Higher Education and Multilevel Regression Models, as well as, an IPEDS workshop on Data and Benchmarking. Melanie Jenkins completed several graduate level courses: Practical Rasch Measurement, Philosophies of Education, Human Development & Learning, Sociology of the School, Issues in Qualitative Research, and History of U.S. Education; as well as, an IPEDS workshop on Data and Benchmarking, and Business Objects 3.0 report writing.

I was an invited presenter at the 2010 Association of Institutional Research Forum. In addition, the following articles were authored by members of the staff:


“Survey of attitudes about nutritional requirements of senior dogs and profiles of commercially available diets for seniors” (D. Hutchinson, L. Freeman, K. Schreiner & D. Terkla) article submitted to Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association (currently being reviewed).

"Using SEM to Describe the Infusion of Civic Engagement into the Campus Culture" (M. Billings and D. Terkla) article submitted to Journal of General Education (currently being reviewed).

I continue to serve as a pre-major academic advisor and a member of the National Postsecondary Education Consortium R&D panel.