

Office Of Institutional Research & Evaluation

Annual Report 2011-2012

Submitted by
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In keeping with tradition, the members of the members of the Office of Institutional Research and Evaluation (OIR&E) team worked diligently to meet the increasing demands placed on the office in 2011-12. 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. Considerable time and energy was spent this year in preparation of the University Self-Study, which will serve as the focal point of the NEASC re-accreditation process and visit (March, 2013). Time and attention was devoted to supporting several major initiatives and committees:

- 1) *Oversight & coordination of the Self-Study for re-accreditation, including support of the eleven working groups and the steering committee*
- 2) *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*
- 3) *Coordination of all schools to insure that university is meeting the requirements outlined in the New England of Schools and Colleges Accreditation Standard 4*
- 4) *The Monitoring and Evaluation team for the USAID RESPOND grant*
- 5) *The Committee on Evaluation of Educational Outcomes in Arts and Sciences*
- 6) *The Engineering Educational Objectives and Outcomes Assessment Committee*
- 7) *The Cummings Outcomes Assessment Committee*
- 8) *The Dental School Outcomes Assessment Committee*
- 9) *The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) U-CAN (the University and College Accountability Network) project*
- 10) *Evaluation of the Tufts Campus Suicide Prevention Grant, funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA)*
- 11) *Introduction, coordination and use of Academic Analytics as a management information tool.*
- 12) *Coordination of student-related issues for the Provost's Office, including oversight of IGL and Graduate Diversity Programs.*

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 ongoing activities and new initiatives that were undertaken during the 2011-2012 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
- AS&E matriculation prediction model
- Dental Accepted Applicant Matriculant Survey & analysis
- Dental Accepted Applicant Non-Matriculant Survey & analysis
- GSAS & GSOE Accepted Applicant Matriculant Survey & analysis
- GSAS & GSOE Accepted Applicant Non-Matriculant Survey & analysis
- Cummings Vet Accepted Applicant Non-Matriculant Survey & analysis

Alumni Surveys & Analysis:

- Arts & Sciences
- Cummings
- Dental
- Engineering
- Medical – post grad year 1
- Public Health & Professional Degree programs
- Tisch College Alumni Civic & Political Attitudes Survey

Evaluations:

- Engineering (EE31)
- Engineering First-Year Courses
- IGERT Water Diplomacy
- Response to Emerging Infectious Diseases (RESPOND, USAID)
- Suicide Prevention Grant (SAMHSA)
- Summer School Online Courses
- Tisch Scholars Program

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
- 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
- TCU Senate Survey & Analysis

Student Services & Academic Programs:

- AS&E analysis of AMCAS data
- NESCAC Alcohol Survey & analysis
- Tisch Library Satisfaction Survey & analysis
- First-Year First-Week Survey & analysis

Administrative support:

- Catering Services Satisfaction Survey & analysis
- Dining Services -- Student Satisfaction Survey & analysis
- Art Gallery Survey & analysis
- Faculty Salary – comparative analysis
- Friedman NEASC RAK accreditation
- ODT 360 surveys
- Open Courseware User Survey & analysis
- Public Safety - multiple surveys & analysis
- University Dashboard
- University Risk Register

University-Wide Coordination Activities and 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 & University Personnel Association Faculty Salary Survey
- 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
- Assorted international ranking organizations

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, Excellence at Work Action Planning Committee, Faculty Information System Committee, IT Advisory Committee, Information Stewardship Committee, NEASC 2013 Graduate & Professional Program Assessment project, SIS Steering Committee, SIS Executive Committee, TCSVM Outcomes Assessment Committee, TRUNK Steering 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).