

ASSESSMENT WEBSITE INFORMATION

**College: Humanities and Social Sciences Degree Program: Public Administration MPA
Chair/Director: Catherine Reese**

DATA SAY:

In 2008 the MPA program began a concerted effort to systematically collect and apply information about its performance to rewrite the program's mission and design a curriculum that was data driven and outcomes based to ensure the highest level of student competency possible.

SO WHAT:

That effort began with core faculty meetings, regular advisory board meetings, alumni surveys and current student input review and rewrite of the programs mission. A vision statement has been added and the mission statement rewritten.

HOW WE CHANGED:

Those efforts are ongoing and multiple modes of data collection have been added to the ones mentioned above.

Specifically, the program has added the following modes of data collection:

- 1. Transitioned to outcomes based learning in each of its core courses and faculty have developed rubrics for the scoring of these competencies**
- 2. Transitioned to a set (three are required) of capstone case studies (as opposed to comprehensive exams that were course specific) required of all graduating students that assesses the mastery of the six (6) specific outcomes listed in the mission statement**
- 3. Developed a curriculum map to determine the level of assessment taking place in each course and in the program as a whole.**
- 4. Developed a formal mechanism that allows employers to evaluate the competency of student interns.**
- 5. Developed a formal exit interview for graduating students**
- 6. Transitioned to an electronic student course evaluation tool, Evalkit, that allows for quicker feedback to faculty regarding their performance in the previous term.**
- 7. Began developing the latest version of the alumni survey to assess the changes to the vision and mission statements. 8. Administered a brief electronic survey to current students in Spring 2011 to give more feedback to faculty regarding issues of diversity, responsiveness and overall program operation.**

WHAT WE GOT:

All of these data are shared with MPA faculty, the advisory board and alumni to guide the program and its development.

