

CARS Talk

Student Affairs Professionals' Commitment to & Competency in Assessment: Spotlighting an Often Untapped Partner in Evidencing Student Learning

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Given limited resources and time, many of us would welcome the contributions of others to support, guide, or sustain the assessment-related work on our campus. Often professionals on the academic “side of the house” are unaware of the assessment-related competencies of professionals on the student affairs “side of the house”. Student affairs professionals are guided by several professional standards regarding the development and assessment of evidence-based programs that improve student learning and development. There is a striking similarity between the student affairs standards and the evidence-based decisions and practices endorsed by faculty. Given the mutual goal of learning improvement, a tremendous efficiency could be reaped if faculty partner with student affairs professionals to create, evaluate, and improve programming. To facilitate this potential partnership, we will examine the assessment-related student affairs professional competencies/standards (i.e., ASK Standards, ACPA & NASPA Professional Competencies, CAS Standards). Simply being exposed to these standards may result in a new appreciation for the assessment-related skills and goals of student affairs practitioners. We will then map these standards to the typical assessment process, showcasing how both faculty and student affairs professionals are engaging in very similar processes when empirically evaluating learning improvement. Moreover, by spotlighting these commonalities, emphasis can be placed on sharing assessment-related education and training opportunities across divisions, not only for efficiency in training but also to foster collaboration.

Participants of this presentation will be able to:

- 1) List the different student affairs standards/competencies related to student learning assessment and improvement
- 2) Articulate the significant alignment between these student affairs standards/competencies and the assessment-related work conducted by faculty
- 3) Engage in strategies to partner with student affairs professionals to evidence improved learning

Friday June 8, 9am – 10am

Lakeview Hall 1165 (Telepresence Room)

All are Welcome to Attend!