Commitment of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

The Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIR-E) is committed to supporting the achievement of the College’s goals and mission by fostering a culture of planning and continuous improvement across the College that highlights student achievement, student support, community engagement, workforce development and educational values. The OIR-E seeks to coordinate and collaborate with all units of the College in the processes of planning and organizing by developing automated systems that help to streamline the collection and warehousing of both quantitative and qualitative data; which ensures accurate, unbiased and timely data analysis for reporting purposes, decision-making, and maintaining institutional compliance.

The following illustration depicts the organization and communication flow of the College’s Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Planning Model. The model includes the five (5) main tenets of IE planning (Plan, Resource, Implement, Assess, Improve) and the four (4) strategic areas (College Mission/Vision/Strategic Plan, Development, Assessment, Use of Results) on a continuum surrounding the overall institutional objective to show continuous improvement through relevant infrastructure modifications. This framework was designed to inform all aspects of the planning and decision making processes across the College.
**Assessment process**

Each of the eighteen programs offering Associate’s degrees at Nunez identifies program student learning outcomes (PSLOs) that align with the College’s mission and strategic plan. Student achievement is assessed through both direct and indirect methods. Each program’s established set of learning outcomes are assessed using samples of student work unique to that program. These programs and student learning outcomes were listed in the Compliance Certification report. During the 2017-2018 planning cycle, the assessment process was redesigned to offer a more standardized approach and timeline for assessment and continuous improvement. As part of the review process, the program student learning outcomes are reviewed for clarity and alignment. Programs with field-specific accrediting or endorsing bodies are encouraged to align program student learning outcomes with standards set by their association. The institutional assessment process of academic and non-academic units also includes setting of goals which ensure continuous planning and improvement across the College. (See attached Nunez Planning Cycle and Paralegal Studies program planning documents)

**Use of Results**

Program managers and program faculty, using the program learning outcome reports, make changes to the educational programs that address the weaknesses in student learning identified through the assessment process, thereby improving each individual program as necessary. The current year’s implementation of improvements included changes in program lab facilities, new personnel, and new course material.

In summary, Nunez Community College identifies student learning outcomes, assesses the outcomes and analyzes the assessment results to identify, develop, and implement changes to educational programs to strengthen student learning.