

# Engaging Student Voices in Institutional Inquiry and Assessment

---

Dr. Galen Foresman  
Dr. Karen Hornsby  
Mr. Mitchell Brown  
Ms. Porche Millington  
Dr. Charles Blaich

Association of American Colleges & Universities Annual Meeting  
January 27, 2011 | San Francisco, CA



North Carolina Agricultural and  
Technical State University

Center of **Inquiry**

WABASH COLLEGE



# Student Voices & Collaboration

---



- About the Wabash-Provost Scholars
- Co-researchers in institutional assessment



## Why Student Voices Matter

---

- For colleges and universities
  - » “Thickens” and contextualizes assessment evidence
  - » Challenges faculty & staff narratives about students
- For students
  - » Creates opportunities during which students can reflect on how choices they are making about their own education
- Requirement - “Mindful listening”



# Audience Interpretation of Data

---

- What do these data tell you?
- What further questions do you have? How would you get the answers to those questions?





# Summary of NC A&T Student Time Use

## Avg. Hours per Day

Sleeping	8.67	Other Activities	0.46
Relaxation	2.07	Work off Campus	0.41
Class Attendance	1.84	Games (video, e.g.)	0.36
Eating	1.69	Phone	0.33
Watching Television	1.48	Computer (Nonacademic)	0.33
Showering/Brush Teeth	1.05	Exercising	0.32
Studying	1.04	Party or Club	0.29
Homework	0.95	Off-campus Activities	0.28
Travel (car, off-campus)	0.49	Chores (e.g. wash clothes)	0.19

Data Collected and Summarized by  
the Wabash-Provost Scholars

Spring 2010





# Digging Deeper: Involving Students

---

## Wabash-Provost Scholars Program North Carolina A&T State University





# Wabash-Provost Scholars

## ■ 2008-2009 Activities

- Focus group and IRB training
- Focus groups – follow-up to WNSLAE
  - Factors affecting student success
- Conf. presentations – Lilly, Honors
- Focus group data analysis
- Written report + recommendations
- Presentation to Provost/Acad. Affairs





# Wabash-Provost Scholars

---

## ■ 2009-2010 Activities

- New cohorts - Focus group/IRB training
- Supplemental Instruction (SI) survey
- Focus groups (spring)
  - SI and student time use
- Conf. presentations – Lilly, ISSoTL
- Data analysis – Time diaries, focus groups
- Presentation to Provost/Chancellor/Acad. Affairs
- Consulting Work







# Wabash-Provost Scholars

---



## ■ 2010-2011 Activities

- Lunch/dinner with Chancellor & Provost
- New cohort - Focus group/IRB training
- Focus groups (fall)
  - Intellectual Climate & Academic Advising
- Training student researchers (Wabash)
- Written report to Chancellor & Provost
- Conf. presentations – Lilly, AAC&U
- Complete WNSLAE longitudinal study
- Focus groups (math students, WNS 2010)





# Wabash-Provost Scholars

---

- What are *WE* learning?
  - Understanding the factors that affect student learning at NC A&T
  - Engaging in scholarly work (research)
  - Building skills and experience
  - Collaborating with faculty and administrators
  - Making connections, making a difference





## Administrators, Faculty, & Staff

---

- What have *WE* learned?
  - Necessity of **combining quantitative and qualitative data** (to create meaning)
  - Ability to create **rich narrative** of student learning
  - Impact of **integrating student voices** in institutional assessment
  - And always... **MORE QUESTIONS...**





# The Institutional SoTL Inquiry Process

---





## A Type of High Impact Practice

---



- Service Learning
- Undergraduate Research

Engagement and  
meaningful, authentic  
experiences





# Questions?

<b>Academy for Teaching and Learning</b> North Carolina A&T State University	
<b>TEACHING. LEARNING. FACULTY DEVELOPMENT.</b>	
<b>ATL WORKSHOPS:</b>	<b>The Wabash National Study of Liberal Arts Education at North Carolina A&amp;T State University</b>
Current Schedule and Workshop Registration	
<b>RESOURCES ON:</b>	<b>WABASH NATIONAL STUDY OF Liberal Arts Education</b>
Faculty Development Grants	NC A&T Wabash National Study Co-Directors:
Wabash National Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Karen Hornsby, Assistant Professor, Department of History</li><li>• Dr. Scott Simkins, Director, Academy for Teaching and Learning</li></ul>
ATL Programs/Projects	The Wabash National Study of Liberal Arts Education is a national longitudinal study investigating the

<http://www.ncat.edu/~atl/wabash-national-study/>

