A Workshop for Wabash National Study Institutions on Using Mixed-Method Approaches for Assessment

March 13–15, 2008
Trippet Hall, Wabash College

Meeting Goal

Institutional teams will develop a plan for pursuing qualitative efforts on their campuses in order to better understand specific areas of Wabash National Study data, so that they can use information from the study to make changes that will improve student learning.

Agenda

Thursday, March 13

Please plan to arrive at Wabash College by 4:00 p.m. on March 13. This will allow time to check in before meetings begin. If your team is flying, Wabash College is about 50 minutes from the Indianapolis airport.

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Preconference meeting for presenters, Teagle Assessment Scholars, and Center staff to review data

Trippet 325

5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Opening reception

Trippet 2nd floor rotunda

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Dinner

Trippet Dining Room

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Opening session

• Institutional introductions, including a brief discussion of initial responses to study data
• Framework for the workshop (Charlie Blaich)

Trippet 123

9:00 p.m. Planning meeting for presenters, Teagle Assessment Scholars, and Center staff

Trippet 325

Friday, March 14

7:30 – 8:45 a.m. Breakfast

Trippet Dining Room
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
*What can we learn from interviews?*  
Plenary #1 – “Qualitative Assessment and Student Faculty Collaboration”  
(Cristin Bates, Claire Droste, Lee Cuba, and Joseph Swingle)

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
*What question(s) do we want to answer?*  
Institutional groups work on projects
  - Columbia and Wabash (Lee Cuba and Nick Lyons)  
  - Whittier and Alma (Scott VanderStoep, Cristin Bates, and Tanner Tritch)  
  - University of Kentucky and Notre Dame (Michael Reder, Joseph Swingle, and Ben Bly)  
  - Hope and Connecticut (Paul Sotherland, Claire Droste, and Julius Woods)

11:00 – 11:15 a.m.  
Break

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
*How can we efficiently use qualitative methods to collect information about our students?*  
Plenary #2 – “Using Focus Groups to Follow up on Wabash National Study Data”  
(Kyle Long, Ben Bly, Nick Lyons, Tanner Tritch, and Julius Woods)

12:15 – 2:00 p.m.  
Lunch – take-out options available  
(includes time to use the athletic facilities or work)

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.  
*Develop methods of collecting qualitative data, including interview/focus group questions*  
Institutional groups work on projects
  - Alma College  
  - Columbia College  
  - Connecticut College  
  - Hope College  
  - University of Kentucky  
  - University of Notre Dame
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.  
**How do we make sense of what our students say?**
Plenary #3 – “What to do with Qualitative Data” (Carol Trosset)

4:30 – 4:45 p.m.  
Break

4:45 – 6:15 p.m.  
**How do we look at and analyze qualitative data? To whom does the data go, and what do we do with it?**
Institutional groups work on projects (also share methods developed in previous session)

- Columbia and Wabash
- Whittier and Alma
- University of Kentucky and Notre Dame
- Hope and Connecticut

6:15 – 6:45 p.m.  
Break for institutional teams

Saturday, March 15

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.  
Breakfast

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.  
**Finalize implementation plans**
Institutional groups work on projects
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Final workshop session – Institutional teams report plans back to the group (Break for 15 minutes at 11:00)

- What question(s) do you want to answer?
- What are you going to do to gather information?
- How are you going to analyze the data you collect?
- How will you share the information on campus?
- What will you do with the information you collect?

12:15 – 1:15 p.m. Lunch (boxed lunches will be available)

Institutional teams complete workshop evaluations and depart after lunch

1:15 – 2:15 p.m. Presenters, Teagle Scholars, and Center staff meet to debrief

- What worked well
- What didn’t go so well and what can we do to improve this part of our work
- Next steps – how can we continue to help these institutions?