



# In Fact...

A newsletter of the Office of Academic Planning and Accountability

## Inside this issue:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) | 2 |
| Institutional Effectiveness (IE)          | 3 |
| Accreditation and Academic Programs (APA) | 4 |

## Office of Academic Planning and Accountability

The Office of Academic Planning and Accountability (OAPA) is located on the third floor of the Miller Information Technology Building on the University of Louisville's Belknap Campus. For more information about our office, please visit our website: [louisville.edu/institutionalresearch](http://louisville.edu/institutionalresearch)

Robert (Bob) Goldstein, MPH, is the Associate Provost for Academic Accountability, Institutional Research, and Effectiveness. He oversees the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, and Accreditation and Academic Programs. He joined the University in January, 2004, as the Director of Institutional Research and Planning.

## What's New?

In May, Emily Noonan, IE analyst, became a doctoral candidate by passing the qualifying exams for the PhD in Anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Congratulations, Emily!

Congratulations to Arnold Hook on his promotion to assistant director of IRP. Previously Arnold was a senior analyst for IRP.

Congratulations to Linda Hou on her promotion to senior analyst for IRP. Previously Linda was an analyst II for IRP.

Welcome to Taylor Heidorn who joined our staff in August as an IRP analyst.

Also, we would like to welcome back Erika Ruffin as an IRP analyst.

## Need Data?

Please visit our website at [louisville.edu/institutionalresearch](http://louisville.edu/institutionalresearch) for posted reports and analyses. Additionally, IRP have several online tools which provide data on degrees, enrollment, and faculty/staff.

If you have a data request, please submit a **Data Request Form** available on our home page.



Miller Information Technology Center  
305 MITC  
University of Louisville  
Louisville, KY 40292  
Phone: 502-852-6169  
Fax: 502-852-2344

## Online Course Evaluations

UofL's course evaluations will be integrated with Blackboard during fall 2011. Students will be able to access their evaluations through Blackboard or using mobile devices.

IRP, in coordination with the individual units, will be releasing the fall 2011 online course evaluations on the following dates:

- Kent School of Social Work - 11/1/2011
- Brandeis School of Law - 11/8/2011
- School of Nursing - 11/14/2011
- College of Arts and Sciences - 11/15/2011
- International Students - UNIV Courses - 11/15/2011
- Audiology and CMDs - 11/15/2011
- School of Music - 11/17/2011
- JB Speed School of Engineering - 11/21/2011
- College of Education and Human Development - 11/21/2011
- School of Public Health and Information Sciences - 11/23/2011
- Microbiology and Immunology - 11/28/2011
- Biochemistry - 12/1/2011
- School of Dentistry - 12/1/2011
- College of Business - 11/14/2011



Encourage students that their responses are important by:

- Forwarding messages in Blackboard
- Allowing time to complete the evaluation in class (where WiFi is available)
- Scheduling a 10-15 minute visit to complete evaluations if a computer lab is available
- Reassuring results are confidential and will not be released until after final grades are submitted

Faculty can now monitor their response rates via a link provided to them as their courses are released.

## Federal Reporting

Institutional Research and Planning has submitted data for the fall reporting cycle of the US Department of Education (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System - IPEDS). The Institutional Characteristics, 12-month enrollment, and Completions surveys were submitted.

Note: the completion of all IPEDS surveys, in a timely and accurate manner, is mandatory for all institutions that participate or are applicants for participation in any Federal financial assistance program authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended. IPEDS surveys are mandated by 20 U.S.C. 1094(a)(17).



## Tips for Faculty to Increase Their Response Rates!

Accessing the evaluations is easier than ever:

- Direct students to 'My UofL' tab in Blackboard, the 'My Course Evaluations' block
- Refer directly [blueeval.louisville.edu/ce](http://blueeval.louisville.edu/ce) for access
- Now compatible with iPads and Smart Phones

## Availability of Official Data

Official fall enrollment and faculty/staff data will be available in mid to late November. Please contact IRP at [louisville.edu/institutionalresearch](http://louisville.edu/institutionalresearch) if you have any questions.

## Questions about IRP?

Contact Becky Patterson, Director  
(502) 852-3385  
[becky.patterson@louisville.edu](mailto:becky.patterson@louisville.edu)

## Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP)



In spring 2011, Institutional Effectiveness (IE) coordinated the administration of Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) writing essay module over a two-week period to seniors in 16 randomly selected 400- and 500-level courses. Overall, UofL seniors scored a 3.3 which fell within one standard deviation of the national mean score. Those students (59%) scoring at or above the national mean (3.2) received a "Certificate of Achievement" from ACT.

Our office conducted a cross sectional analysis with native first-year students who were administered the CAAP writing essay module in fall 2010 as part of the learning gains measurement or value added scores reported to the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) College Portrait.

## Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE)



IE administered the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE) this spring. This survey complements the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) that our freshmen and seniors took in spring 2009. This initiative supports the ongoing efforts of the Persistence to Graduation (P-G) committee who have been charged to develop and support retention and persistence efforts in our undergraduate units. The data will be used to determine where students' and faculty's perceptions on engagement align and differ in and outside the classroom. The results will help contextualize and focus our discussions on student engagement as they relate to teaching, learning and the quality of our undergraduates' educational experience.

## Your First College Year (YFCY)

Your First College Year (YFCY) was administered to the 2010 GRS cohort in spring 2011. This survey complements the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) given to these incoming first-year students during 2010 summer orientation. These national surveys, sponsored by the Higher Educational Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA, are designed to provide data to assist UofL to compare college expectations of freshmen with their actual experience after the first year of college. Since these are national surveys the university also is able to analyze how our students' responses compare to first-year students at similar public universities.



## Compliance Assist



Members of the OAPA and university community formed an evaluation team to review the leading web-based software products to support our institutional accreditation and assessment process. Based on the results of the online demonstrations and the responses from each of the vendors to a series of product-specific questions, the evaluation team recommended that the UofL purchase Compliance Assist! The software is a comprehensive web-based assessment and reporting system for collecting and managing institutional, departmental, and program data to support student learning outcomes based assessments and regional and discipline-specific accreditation.

## Questions about IE?

Contact Cheryl Gilchrist, Director

(502) 852-8139

[cbgilc01@louisville.edu](mailto:cbgilc01@louisville.edu)

## Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) is one of the six regional accreditation organizations recognized by the United States Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. This agency accredits over 13,000 public and private educational institutions ranging from preschool to college level in the southern United States.



The University of Louisville is institutionally accredited by SACS.

Nationally, the changing landscape of accreditation and the new regulations of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) have resulted in significant changes to how institutions will define credit hours, monitor distance education offerings and collect job placement information. Regional accreditors are reviewing their policies to determine how to best promote compliance with the HEOA. The SACS 5-year Interim Report was designed to address the Department of Education concerns about timely reviews.

UofL will start preparation to complete the 5th Year Interim Report that is due in March 2013. It will include an abbreviated compliance report and a QEP Impact Report on the Ideas to Action project. The university's full ten-year review will still take place in 2017. For more information see

**[louisville.edu/institutionalresearch/accreditation](http://louisville.edu/institutionalresearch/accreditation)**

## Gainful Employment Regulations

In June 2011, the final regulations were released that require career college programs to better prepare students for "gainful employment" or risk losing access to Federal student aid. These regulations are designed to ramp up over the next four years, giving institutions time to reform while protecting students and their families from exploitative programs. To qualify for Federal aid, the law requires that most for-profit programs and certificate programs at nonprofit and public institutions prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation.

**[ed.gov/news/press-releases/gainful-employment-regulations](http://ed.gov/news/press-releases/gainful-employment-regulations)**

At the University of Louisville, the Office of Academic Planning and Accountability has worked with the Student Financial Aid Office and select UofL certificate programs approved by the Department of Education (DOE) as eligible programs to complete the required reporting. The gainful employment regulations will require follow-up reporting and is the subject of much debate in Congress and nationally among higher education groups. The initial Gainful Employment Disclosure Reports are posted on each certificate program website as well as the Student Financial Aid Office and OAPA websites.

**[louisville.edu/financialaid/consumer-information/fall-2011-spring-2012-summer-2012.html#-17-additional-consumer](http://louisville.edu/financialaid/consumer-information/fall-2011-spring-2012-summer-2012.html#-17-additional-consumer)**

or

**[louisville.edu/institutionalresearch/accreditation/gainful-employment.html](http://louisville.edu/institutionalresearch/accreditation/gainful-employment.html)**

## Questions about AAP?

**Contact Connie Shumake, Assistant University Provost**

**(502) 852-3551**

**[ccshum01@louisville.edu](mailto:ccshum01@louisville.edu)**