

## Responding to Data about Student Learning and Student Experiences

- 1) **Audit** – Review the Northeast College documents and consider the following questions:
  - What is Northeast College’s mission?
    - Based on the college’s mission, what outcomes does the college value?
    - What outcome measures, surveys, and measures of student experience are relevant to the college’s mission and outcomes?
  - What are Northeast College’s structural properties?
    - How do these properties relate to the in- and out-of-class teaching and learning environment?
    - How do these properties relate to faculty development?
    - How do these properties relate to the dissemination of assessment data?
  - What do the data reports indicate?
    - How much and in what direction are Northeast College students changing over the course of the first year?
      - What are the positive trends?
      - What trends raise concerns?
    - What good practices are at high levels?
    - What good practices are at low levels?
    - Are there ways in which the patterns in the levels of the good practices and conditions connect with changes in the outcomes and/or other institutional concerns?
- 2) **Communication** – How do you plan to disseminate data about student learning and student experiences on campus?
  - Will you use standing committees, campus presentations, faculty meetings, etc?
  - Will you send reports to faculty and staff?
    - What form should these reports take?
  - Will you talk to students about study data?
  - Will you ask for evaluations and interpretations of the data or simply report out?
    - How will you respond to faculty and staff questions about the data, including questions about the quality, meaning, or implications of the data?
    - Would working in collaborative settings with representatives from other institutions be helpful?
  - Would consultants be useful in discussing these data with campus constituencies?
- 3) **Action** – The president of Northeast College has allocated \$5,000 to support “first responses” to the assessment data gathered in 2007-08. Please describe your recommendations for how these funds should be used to respond to the data by completing the Northeast College Action Plan worksheet. Consider the following questions as you develop your action plan:
  - Are there items emerging from the data that are easier to respond to first?
    - Are there good practices and conditions that might be relatively easy to change?

- Are there existing offices, departments, or programs that could readily use the data to work with their constituencies?
- Are there new alliances or coalitions of individuals that might use the data to support improvement across different sectors on campus?
- How will faculty be brought into the process?
  - How will the recommendations impact faculty and areas of the institution, such as course development or faculty development, that faculty govern?
- Are there ways of involving students to develop, support, and implement planned activities?
- What should the Northeast's president and other key administrators do to support the work of the task force?