

Action Project Completion Feedback Form

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Institution: Moraine Park Technical College

Action Project ID: #97: Using assessment Portfolios for program evaluation and planning for improvement.

1. How have you documented the work (changes, process reengineering, etc.) done under this Action Project to ensure that your institution will continue to benefit from your efforts?

The implementation of this Action Project has the oversight of a six member Subteam, which is a subgroup of Moraine Park's Outcome Assessment Major Process Team. All documents including agendas, meeting action plans, PowerPoints, survey instruments, data analyses, and reports marking progress in annual performance targets are retained electronically on a shared Assessment and/or Institutional Advancement network drive. Information is stored in separate, easily accessible directories. Although this project is a retired Action Project, the Subteam continues to be an active work team that will continue refining the processes to integrate Moraine Park's student outcome assessment practices into the Elements of Quality Programs (EQP) processes to improve teaching and learning.

2. Estimate the total financial and human costs you incurred in accomplishing this Action Project. If possible, translate human costs (i.e., employee time, consultants) into dollar amounts, but explain additionally other human consequences that have no dollar equivalents.

It is estimated that the College managers, instructors and support professionals who are members of the Assessment in EQP Subteam managed this Action Project using 306 hours at an average cost of \$35 an hour for an expenditure of \$10,710. One important consequence of this Action Project is that we recognized the effectiveness of using a team to manage the Project. Team management efficiently facilitated achievement of performance targets.

3. Estimate the final financial and human benefits you believe your institution will realize as a result of this Action Project. If cost savings will occur, estimate the total or the yearly dollar savings. If the benefits are in terms of reduced labor, estimate the total or yearly dollar savings. If the major benefits anticipated will be non financial (e.g., higher morale, better service to students and stakeholders) describe these as concretely as possible.

The major benefits of this Action Project are non financial. The greatest benefit of the Project is that the College now uses assessment surveys that provide data that are used by instructors and managers to improve teaching and learning. Another benefit is that the assessment culture surveys that were conducted heightened awareness that the entire college community has responsibility for assessment of student learning. A final important outcome is that all programs now include an assessment improvement plan as an indicator in the program evaluation process, EQP. Any financial implications might be realized when the program evaluation process indicates that a program needs intervention to continue meeting stakeholders' needs.

4. What spin-off benefits have occurred as a result of working on this Action Project. How has it influenced or changed your institution's culture? What other projects have been initiated as a consequence of this one?

One spin-off benefit that resulted from this Action Project is that the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) adopted Moraine Park's EQP process for use in the statewide Quality Program Review (QPR) program. Assessment is now fully integrated in our institution's culture. No other projects have been initiated as a result of this one, because this Project is continuing but not as an AQIP Action Project.

5. What unintended consequences - either positive or negative - occurred because of your working on this Action Project?

It was determined that the evaluation of Student Portfolios should be ongoing throughout the student's educational experience, rather than after the student graduates as is our current process. In addition, portfolio evaluation data needs to be electronically managed to facilitate use by faculty.

6. Describe any efforts you have made to share your experience with this Action Project with the larger higher education community.

One of the Assessment Culture surveys that was developed and conducted early in this Action Project, used the Higher Learning Commission's "2002 Levels of Implementation – Patterns of Characteristics" (matrices). The Institutional Research Partner and the Outcome Assessment/NCA Associate presented our experience with this survey at the 2003 Higher Learning commission/NCA Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL. The title of the presentation was "Evaluating Assessment: Turbulent Flight in the Life of an Assessment Evaluation Pilot Process." More than 200 conference-goers attended the presentation.