UT MARTIN ASSESSMENT NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2017

Retention Data Used for Grant Application

UT Martin has an opportunity to apply for a Tennessee Higher Education Commission grant designed to improve our results in Outcomes Based Formula funding. To develop the application, we have been analyzing data for annual cohorts of incoming students between 2010 and 2016. Here are some of our findings:

- Approximately 70% of each incoming cohort are students recruited from counties in West Tennessee.
- Since 2010, approximately 9% of our incoming students leave UTM after the first semester and another 20% leave after the second semester.
- About 10% of those who leave after the first semester and about 18% of those who leave after the second semester have GPAs between 2.0 and 2.5.
- The attrition rate drops to approximately 12% after the second year.

That means that we are losing a lot of students that can be successful. What can you do? *Talk to your students!* If you see someone who is struggling, let them know you care about their well-being. If you don't think you know the student well enough, you can notify the Student Success Center by logging in to Banner, clicking on Faculty, and sending a Student Ad Hoc Alert (see below). They will contact the student and try to help them.

We will let you know if our grant application is successful…stay tuned!

MILE Program—SAILS Test Results

As you know, we have been running the MILE Program on information literacy as our quality enhancement plan for SACSCOC for the past five years. We collected data from the Project SAILS information literacy exam in Fall 2013 as a pre-test and in Spring 2017 as a post-test. In between, we have worked on improving our students' information literacy skills through General Studies 101, English 100-112, and in your own discipline-specific courses.

We are pleased to share with you the results of the Project SAILS exams. The Project SAILS exam evaluated information literacy skills in 6 of the areas we targeted with the MILE Program. You can see from the chart on the next page that our students' skills have improved immensely over the course of the MILE Program and, in some cases, have exceeded the mean scores of all institutions who participated in Spring 2017. We have additional results that show our juniors and seniors scored significantly above the mean scores of institutions similar to ours in several categories.

Thank you to everyone who supported the MILE Program. A special thanks to those who taught in the program—faculty and staff in the Paul Meek Library, English, General Studies 101, discipline-specific MILE Program courses, and the Hortense Parrish Writing Center. We are looking forward to sharing these results with SACSCOC to demonstrate how much our students have improved!

MILE Program Student Learning Outcome	Project SAILS Skill Set	Fall, 2013		Spring, 2017	
		UT Martin Overall Mean Scores	All Institutions Overall Mean Scores	UT Martin Overall Mean Scores	All Institutions Overall Mean Scores
Identification and Retrieval:					
1a. Students will select efficient and effective approaches for accessing the information needed from the investigative method or information retrieval system.	Selecting Finding Tools	471 ± 19	512 ± 1	508 ± 13	508 ± 1
1b. Students will assess the quantity, quality, and relevance of the search results to determine whether alternative information retrieval systems, investigative methods, or search terms should be utilized.	Searching	496 ± 21	503 ± 1	491 ± 10	492 ± 0
Critical Selection:					
2a. Students will examine and compare information from various sources in order to identify purpose and audience, evaluate reliability, validity, accuracy, authority, timeliness, and point of view or bias.	Evaluating Sources	482 ± 22	513 ± 1	489 ± 12	478 ± 1
2b. Students will determine whether information satisfies the research or other information need.	Developing a Research Strategy	483 ± 19	510 ± 1	510 ± 10	512 ± 0
Ethical Considerations:					
4a. Students will demonstrate an understanding of plagiarism, intellectual property, copyright, fair use and the legal collection and distribution of text, data, images, or sounds.	Understanding Economic, Legal, and Social Issues	454 ± 27	499 ± 1	473 ± 13	474 ± 1
4b. Students will select an appropriate documentation style and use it consistently to document paraphrased, directly quoted, or other referenced information properly.	Documenting Sources	449 ± 29	496 ± 1	484 ± 14	473 ± 1