

September 2009

****NOTICE****

All Results Data Are
Due By September
30th, 2009!

Special Points of Interest:

Should you need assistance in navigation or data input within the **TracDat®** system, please contact Marjorie Donzello at Ext. 6734. Thank you for your diligent efforts!
Marjorie.



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for 2009/2010**

Data Tips

Important Dates!

Sept 30, 2009

All results due for the
2008/2009 year

October 1, 2009

10:00am to Noon
Open Training
ESSC 152

**November 1, 2009:
All plan updates due
for the 2009/2010
Academic Year**

UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH TEXAS™



Institutional Effectiveness

“Achieving and Reporting Expected Outcomes”

University of North Texas
Institutional Research & Effectiveness

TracDat®
Assessment Culture

Volume II Issue 1

Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Domains: Part Two

Capstone and Course Assignments are two distinct assessment method categories in the **TracDat®** system for degree programs. The following is a brief description for each category and sample data.

The Capstone Assignment/Project category reflects the overall learning experience from a degree program. Usually, a portfolio is produced with a “reflective paper” and “supporting attachments.” The assessment includes a compilation of practicum and related classroom work and should represent an understanding of

one or more concepts and how they may be put to work with real-life applications.

The reflective paper in a capstone assignment is the opportunity for the student to reveal personal insight about a topic; the essay is implemented more or less as a self-assessment measure. Students need to demonstrate that the points he/she has made are valid, insightful and significant.

A Course Assignment is reflective of a single objective in a student learning outcome. For example, a course assignment could be

an application problem about a topic within the scope and sequence. Another example may be a particular problem set in reference to an order of operations in a mathematics class. Course assignments are to reflect only a portion of the material covered over the period of a semester, not a comprehensive assessment of the entire course.

Be sure to identify the assignments and provide a copy in the document repository along with a scoring rubric where applicable.

Thank you!!!!

The University of North Texas Program of Institutional Effectiveness

The Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness has posted UNT's Program of Institutional Effectiveness (IE) at the following URL:

http://www.unt.edu/ir_acc/Assessment/PDFs/Master_Program_for_Institutional_Effectiveness.pdf

On page 5 of the document, the IE Cycle for the 2009/2010 Academic year is posted with due dates for input in the **TracDat®** system. The program is the culmination of hard work by Assistant Vice President Dr. Allen Clark and Dr. Richard K. Plott, and provides the

fundamental outline for Institutional Effectiveness as directed by UNT's regional accreditation agency, The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Thank you for all your help in this past academic year!

Dr. Richard Kent Plott

2009/2010 Academic Year: TracDat® Due Dates

The following dates depict the timeline for completing assignments in the **TracDat®** system for Institutional Effectiveness at UNT.

September 1, 2009 – beginning of new academic year;

November 1, 2009 – all assessment units (mission/vision) and plans (expected outcomes, means of assessment, &

related goals) to be entered in the automated records management system -**TracDat®**;

January 1-31, 2009 – all assessment units and plans undergo the review and compliance checklist process;

September 30, 2010 – all results and reports to be completed for the previous academic year and placed in the **TracDat®**

system;

October 1-31, 2010 – all data are reviewed from the previous academic year for compliance with Principles of Accreditation (SACS).

We appreciate all your hard work as we comply with Institutional Effectiveness.



“Why don’t you write books people can read?”

Nora Joyce to her husband, James.

Student Learning Outcomes Assembler

An assembler for Student Learning Outcomes (SLO’s) is now available on the Assessment Website. The URL is:

<https://untranet.unt.edu/committees/dssc/dss/Student%20Learning%20Outcomes%20Form/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

Please copy and paste this link to open the assembler. This has been approved by the Office of Institutional Research & Effectiveness for implementation in the 2009/2010 academic year. **This is for degree programs** to generate SLO’s in the TracDat system.

Do not use the SLO Assembler to create administrative outcomes. There will be an administrative outcomes assembler available in November 2009. Thank you for all the hard work and effort to achieve compliance with our accreditation agencies.

“I never know how much of what I say is true.” Bette Midler

Have a question or comment? Contact the IR&E office at: IRDept@unt.edu

TRACDAT® Q&A



Q. Can requests be sent to another user member in the TracDat® System, to complete an assignment or duty?

A. Yes, an assignment can be sent to another user member in the unit. In the Means of Assessment tab, there is an “Assign” option which will allow a duty to be sent via email to another user member.

Q. Will there be training in 2009/2010 academic year for TracDat®?

A. Yes, training will occur each month and will be posted on the monthly calendar.

* Training for advanced tools in TracDat® will begin in the month of October. Watch for times and locations!

Our responsibility for Academic and Institutional Effectiveness is to provide consistent, valid, and transparent records both for our learning community and for our evaluators (The UNT Board and SACS).