

# NORCO COLLEGE ANNUAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW

**Unit: Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE)**

*Please give the full title of your unit.*

**Contact Person: Greg Aycock**

**Due: AUGUST 31, 2015**

Please send an electronic copy to your area Vice President



*Form Last Revised: AUGUST 2015*

**Norco College**

Web Resources: <http://www.norcocollege.edu/about/president/strategic-planning/programreview/Pages/index.aspx>

# Annual Administrative Program Review Update

## Instructions

The Annual Administrative Program Review is conducted by each unit and consists of an analysis of changes within the unit as well as significant new resource needs for staff, resources, facilities, and equipment. It should be **submitted or renewed every year** in anticipation of budget planning for the fiscal year, which begins July 1 of the *following* calendar year.

The questions on the subsequent pages are intended to assist you in planning for your unit.

The forms that follow are separated into pages for ease of distribution to relevant subcommittees. **Please keep the pages separated** if possible (though part of the same electronic file), **with the headers as they appear**, and be sure to include your unit, contact person (this may change from topic to topic) and date on each page submitted. Don't let formatting concerns slow you down. If you have difficulty with formatting, Nicole C. Ramirez can adjust the document for you. Simply add responses to those questions that apply and forward the document to [nicole.ramirez@norccollege.edu](mailto:nicole.ramirez@norccollege.edu) with a request to format it appropriately.

If you cannot identify in which category your requests belong or if you have complex-funding requests please schedule an appointment with your college's Vice President for Business Services right away. They will assist you with estimating the cost of your requests. It is vital to include cost estimates in your request forms. Each college uses its own prioritization system. Inquiries regarding that process should be directed to your Vice President.

The college has adopted a Total Cost of Ownership calculator for the use of determining cost of faculty, personnel and other needs related to a department or program. The calculator is located under the Office of the Vice President, Business Services, as "Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Spreadsheet" at the following link: <http://www.norccollege.edu/about/business-services/Pages/index.aspx>

## **Mission**

Norco College serves our students, our community, and its workforce by providing educational opportunities, celebrating diversity, and promoting collaboration. We encourage an inclusive, innovative approach to learning and the creative application of emerging technologies. We provide foundational skills and pathways to transfer, career and technical education, certificates and degrees.

## **Vision**

Norco – creating opportunities to transform our students and community for the dynamic challenges of tomorrow.

# **Educational Master Plan/Strategic Goals and Objectives 2013-2018**

## **Goal 1: Increase Student Achievement and Success**

Objectives:

1. Improve transfer preparedness (completes 60 transferable units with a 2.0 GPA or higher).
2. Improve transfer rate by 10% over 5 years.
3. Increase the percentage of basic skills students who complete the basic skills pipeline by supporting the development of alternatives to traditional basic skills curriculum.
4. Improve persistence rates by 5% over 5 years (fall-spring; fall-fall).
5. Increase completion rate of degrees and certificates over 6 years.
6. Increase success and retention rates.
7. Increase percentage of students who complete 15 units, 30 units, 60 units.
8. Increase the percentage of students who begin addressing basic skills needs in their first year.
9. Decrease the success gap of students in online courses as compared to face-to-face instruction.
10. Increase course completion, certificate and degree completion, and transfer rates of underrepresented students.

## **Goal 2: Improve the Quality of Student Life**

Objectives:

1. Increase student engagement (faculty and student interaction, active learning, student effort, support for learners).
2. Increase frequency of student participation in co-curricular activities.
3. Increase student satisfaction and importance ratings for student support services.
4. Increase the percentage of students who consider the college environment to be inclusive.
5. Decrease the percentage of students who experience unfair treatment based on diversity-related characteristics.
6. Increase current students' awareness about college resources dedicated to student success.

## **Goal 3: Increase Student Access**

Objectives:

1. Increase percentage of students who declare an educational goal.
2. Increase percentage of new students who develop an educational plan.
3. Increase percentage of continuing students who develop an educational plan.
4. Ensure the distribution of our student population is reflective of the communities we serve.
5. Reduce scheduling conflicts that negatively impact student completion of degrees and programs.

## **Goal 4: Create Effective Community Partnerships**

Objectives:

1. Increase the number of students who participate in summer bridge programs or boot camps.
2. Increase the number of industry partners who participate in industry advisory council activities.
3. Increase the number of dollars available through scholarships for Norco College students.
4. Increase institutional awareness of partnerships, internships, and job opportunities established with business and industry.
5. Continue the success of Kennedy Partnership (percent of students 2.5 GPA+, number of students in co-curricular activities, number of students who are able to access courses; number of college units taken).
6. Increase community partnerships.
7. Increase institutional awareness of community partnerships.
8. Increase external funding sources which support college programs and initiatives.

## **Goal 5: Strengthen Student Learning**

### Objectives:

1. 100% of units (disciplines, Student Support Service areas, administrative units) will conduct systematic program reviews.
2. Increase the percentage of student learning and service area outcomes assessments that utilize authentic methods.
3. Increase the percentage of programs that conduct program level outcomes assessment that closes the loop.
4. Increase assessment of student learning in online courses to ensure that it is consistent with student learning in face-to-face courses.
5. Increase the number of faculty development workshops focusing on pedagogy each academic year.

## **Goal 6: Demonstrate Effective Planning Processes**

### Objectives:

1. Increase the use of data to enhance effective enrollment management strategies.
2. Systematically assess the effectiveness of strategic planning committees and councils.
3. Ensure that resource allocation is tied to planning.
4. Institutionalize the current Technology Plan.
5. Revise the Facilities Master Plan.

## **Goal 7: Strengthen Our Commitment To Our Employees**

### Objectives:

1. Provide professional development activities for all employees.
2. Increase the percentage of employees who consider the college environment to be inclusive.
3. Decrease the percentage of employees who experience unfair treatment based on diversity-related characteristics.
4. Increase participation in events and celebrations related to inclusiveness.
5. Implement programs that support the safety, health, and wellness of our college community.

# COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT ANNUAL REVIEW WORKSHEETS

## DUE: AUGUST 31, 2015

Administrative Unit: OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (OIE)

Prepared by: Greg Aycock

Date: 8/31/2015

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**Submit only your Worksheets. Do not alter the forms, or eliminate pages. If a page does not apply simply mark N/A.**

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### I. The Unit PROGRAM REVIEW

*The Administrative (Unit Program Review) is meant to provide a broad understanding of the unit, current trends related to the unit's mission, and how the unit serves to meet the overall mission or goals of Norco College and the Riverside Community College District.*

**1. What is the mission of your unit?**

The mission of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) is to encourage the use of data, in all forms, in a systematic manner for the purpose of decision-making, planning, and evaluation of institutional effectiveness (including but not limited to courses, programs, services, projects, and grant outcomes).

**2. Identify or outline how your unit serves the mission of Norco College. Please limit to a single paragraph.**

The OIE is integral to the mission of Norco College. Only by systematic study and use of data will the institution know the level that:

- 1) Norco College is serving students, community and workforce;
- 2) Norco College is impacting student learning through the application of emerging technologies; and
- 3) Foundational pathways are leading to transfer, degrees, and certificates.

3. **List the major functions of your unit.**

<b><u>Function</u></b>
<b>1. Provide, interpret, and lead the appropriate use of data in assessment, planning and institutional research efforts</b>
<b>2. Provide leadership to improve the success and effectiveness of basic skills courses and processes</b>
<b>3. Increase the use of data and systematic inquiry in the assessment of student learning at the course, program, and degree levels.</b>
<b>4. Provide expertise and guidance on appropriate research design and statistical analyses to faculty, staff, and administration when considering any type of research study, evaluation project, or grant application</b>

4. **Briefly comment on the status of your 2015 goals and objectives.**

**Goal 1-Prepare data and evidence in support of follow up visit in October 2015.**

This is still in progress as the follow up visit hasn't occurred yet.

**Goal 2-Implement Recommendation 1-“assess the evaluation mechanisms used in integrated planning and resource allocation to ensure that those evaluations are effective in improving programs, processes, and decision-making structures”**

There was a strategic planning retreat in fall 2014, and data were gathered assessing how each of the mechanisms impacted programs processes, and decision-making structures.

**Goal 3-Implement TracDat for course and program outcomes assessment.**

During 2014-15, Nuventive showed us the new version of TracDat which was very different than the current version at that time. Due to this it was decided that the full roll-out to Norco College wouldn't happen until that version was released. Norco got the new version in early August 2015.

5. **MAJOR Goals and Objectives 2015 – 2016** (do not include normal functions of your unit). In order from 1 – 5 is best. With 1 as the most important.

Before writing your goals and objectives be sure to review other Program/Unit Review documents related to your unit to discern if there are service needs you wish to address.

<b>Major Goal and/or Objective</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Status: ongoing, completed, or date completion anticipated</b>	<b>Need Assistance in order to complete goal or objective (reference applicable resource request page)</b>	<b>EMP GOALS</b>
1. Implement TracDat institution-wide for instructional assessment	August 2015	Ongoing		5.1-5.5
2. Prepare data and evidence for ACCJC follow up visit	July 2015	November 2015		1-7
3. Address all concerns stated in letter of special monitoring from ACCJC	August 2015	March 2016		1-7
4.				
5.				



## Previous Year's Assessment

SAO Assessed:	Assessment method used:	What was your target or benchmark?	What were the results?	How do you anticipate using these results?																						
<p>The OIE will develop a process to assessment evaluation mechanisms used in integrated planning and resource allocation to ensure that those evaluations are effective in improving programs processes, and decision-making structures (Recommendation 1)</p>	<p>At the annual strategic planning retreat, survey data were gathered (using clickers) that assessed two things: whether each of the evaluation mechanisms mapped to improvement of programs, processes, and decision-making structures. Then for those that did map, retreat attendees rated how well they improved on a 1-10 scale.</p>	<p>Our target was to evaluate the mechanisms which we did. Since it was an initial assessment, these data represent baseline measures.</p>	<p>Three mechanisms showed no mapping to anything: Open Dialogue Session, Annual Progress Report on EMP Goals &amp; Objectives, and Annual Evaluation Report. The remaining mechanisms had the following ratings (1-10 scale):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="919 472 1696 946"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Planning Councils-Processes</td> <td>6.41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning Councils-Decision Making</td> <td>6.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AS &amp; Standing Comm Survey-Processes</td> <td>6.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AS &amp; Standing Comm Survey-Decision Making</td> <td>6.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>President's Memo-Decision Making</td> <td>6.91</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Progress Report on EMP/SP Goals-Programs</td> <td>6.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Progress Report on EMP/SP Goals-Processes</td> <td>5.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Progress Report on EMP/SP Goals-Decision Making</td> <td>6.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Report of Resource Allocation-Programs</td> <td>6.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Report of Resource Allocation-Processes</td> <td>6.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Report of Resource Allocation-Decision Making</td> <td>6.84</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Planning Councils-Processes	6.41	Planning Councils-Decision Making	6.57	AS & Standing Comm Survey-Processes	6.67	AS & Standing Comm Survey-Decision Making	6.18	President's Memo-Decision Making	6.91	Progress Report on EMP/SP Goals-Programs	6.04	Progress Report on EMP/SP Goals-Processes	5.83	Progress Report on EMP/SP Goals-Decision Making	6.27	Report of Resource Allocation-Programs	6.38	Report of Resource Allocation-Processes	6.55	Report of Resource Allocation-Decision Making	6.84	<p>At present, ISPC has reviewed the three mechanisms with no mapping and has decided that the Open Dialogue Session will no longer be included as an evaluation mechanism. However, it will continue to be part of ISPC and strategic planning. The other two mechanisms will stay in place, but will start to be used in the strategic planning process. The 5 mechanism on left will be reviewed in fall 2015.</p>
Planning Councils-Processes	6.41																									
Planning Councils-Decision Making	6.57																									
AS & Standing Comm Survey-Processes	6.67																									
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Report of Resource Allocation-Decision Making	6.84																									
<p>The OIE will develop, implement, and assess an evaluative mechanism to review all parts of the SLO assessment process (Recommendation 2)</p>	<p>This will be done in collaboration with NAC and the VPAA, but I will suggest a rubric scoring process that is done while viewing the final program review documents</p>		<p>Rubric used for scoring assessment section of instructional APR will be evaluated in Fall 2015 by NAC.</p>	<p>Feedback will be used to improve the rubric for the next program review cycle.</p>																						

- **Reflective Question: What did you learn that will impact your unit for the future?**

I believe the evaluation of strategic planning evaluation mechanisms (Recommendation 1) will shift the institution’s focus on how to use the data produced. This is a positive move which will improve our strategic planning process. Can’t make a statement about assessment rubric since the review of it by NAC hasn’t occurred yet.

**Directions:** The primary purpose of this update is to provide an overview of your unit’s assessment activities (plans, data, responses to data, etc.) for the previous academic year as well as your plans for assessment in the upcoming academic year. If you have any questions regarding the assessment process on this aspect of the report, please contact your vice president, or the Assessment Co-chairs, Sarah Burnett at [sarah.burnett@norcocollege.edu](mailto:sarah.burnett@norcocollege.edu) or Greg Aycock at [greg.aycock@norcocollege.edu](mailto:greg.aycock@norcocollege.edu). See Appendix 1 for more information about assessment.

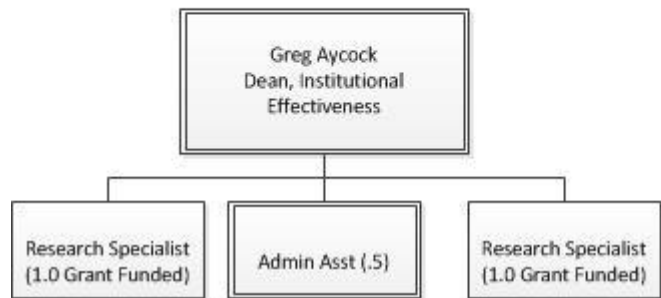
### Current year’s assessment plan

SAO to be assessed:	What assessment methods do you plan to use?	When Will Assessment Be Conducted and Reviewed?	What result, target, or value will represent success at achieving this outcome?	How do you anticipate using the results from the assessment?	EMP GOALS
All instructional assessment work for the past four years will be input into TracDat.	Reporting function of TracDat will summarize all assessments input. I will then compare that with the records I have on file. If they are all there, then it will be 100%.	August 2016	100%	To establish a foundation upon which assessment will continue to grow and remain visible to any constituents	5.2-5.5
The percentage of courses and programs assessed will be at or above 85%.	Percentage	March 2016	85%	Continue to push our level of assessment toward 100%	5.2-5.5

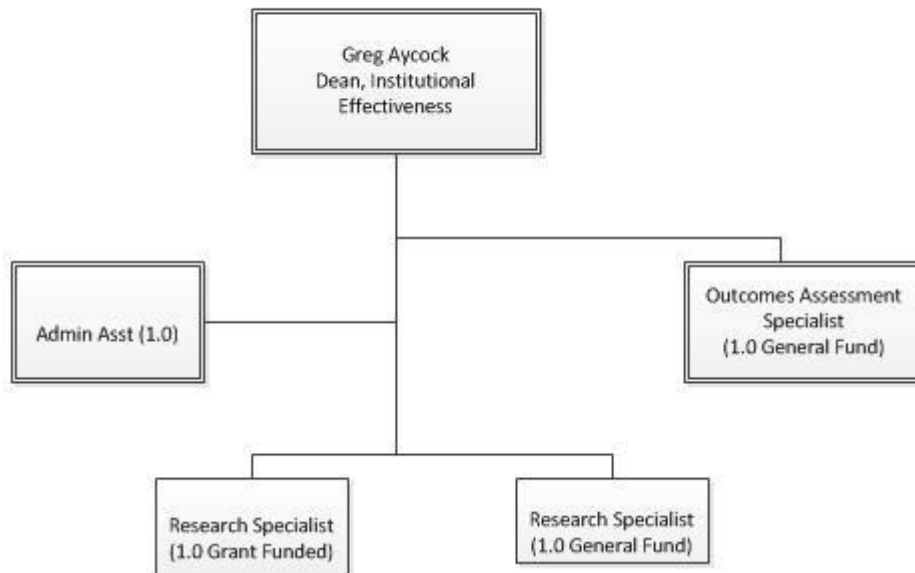
**Provide the official Organizational Chart of your unit which includes all levels of services and positions.** *If necessary, provide very brief narrative descriptions by numbering the chart and including a numbered list with clarifications on a subsequent page. The official chart can be obtained from Human Resources.*

*If you wish make this an appendix item.*

### Present Chart



### Ideal Chart



6. **Staffing Profile (Please indicate the number in terms of FTE. In other words a full time staff person is a 1, and a half time person is a .5)**

Position	Staffing Levels for Each of the Previous Five Years					Anticipated total staff needed	
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016-2017	2017-2018
Administration	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Classified Staff FT		.25	.5	.5	2.5	3	4
Classified Staff PT		.75	1	1			
Confidential Staff FT							
Faculty Reassigned FTE Full time							
Faculty Reassigned FTE Part time							
<b>Total Full Time Equivalent Staff</b>	1	2	2.5	2.5	3.5	4	5

Complete the Management and/or Staff request form that follow if new employees are needed.

When filling out the form on the next page please **consider** the following in framing your “reason:”

- a. *Has the workload of your unit increased in recent years?*
- b. *Has technology made it possible to do more work with the same staff? Or, has technology increased your work load (adding web features which need updating for example)?*
- c. *Does the workload have significant peaks and valleys during the fiscal year that would be best filled by part time staff?*

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Staff Needs

### NEW OR REPLACEMENT STAFF (Administrator, Faculty or Classified)<sup>1</sup>

List Staff Positions Needed for Academic Year <u>2015-16</u> Place titles on list in order (rank) or importance.	Indicate (N) = New or (R) = Replacement	Annual TCO*	EMP GOALS
<b>1. Outcomes Assessment Specialist (100%)</b> <u>Reason:</u> With the introduction of TracDat, and ACCJC's continued monitoring of course and program assessment, there is a need to have ongoing research support for the data generated from assessment.	New	\$111,734	1, 5, 6
<b>2. Administrative Assistant III (Additional 50% to 100%)</b> <u>Reason:</u> At present the Dean of Library, Technology and Learning Resources shares an Administrative Assistant with the Dean of Institutional Effectiveness. Most deans have one fully dedicated Admin Assistant, and with the extra work coming to the OIE from accreditation, assessment, and other areas, a FT admin assistant would be very helpful in handling the load.	New	\$42,274 (this is additional cost)	1-7
<b>3. IR Specialist (50%)</b> <u>Reason:</u> At present 50% of this position is funded by the Title III STEM grant which ends 9/30/2016	Replace funding	\$50,100 (this is additional cost)	1-7
<b>4.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			
<b>5.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			
<b>6.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			

\* TCO = "Total Cost of Ownership" for one year is the cost of an average salary plus benefits for an individual. Use space for language or linking resources to assessment.

<sup>1</sup> If your SERVICE AREA OUTCOMES (SAO) assessment results make clear that particular resources are needed to more effectively serve students please be sure to note that in the "reason" section of this form.

TCO: <http://www.norcollege.edu/about/business-services/Pages/index.aspx>

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. Equipment (including technology) Needs Not Covered by Current Budget<sup>2</sup>**

<b>List Equipment or Equipment Repair &amp; Technology Needed for Academic Year _____ Please be as specific and as brief as possible.</b> Place items on list in order (rank) or importance.	Annual TCO**			EMP GOALS
	Cost per item	Number Requested	Total Cost of Ownership	
1. <u>Reason:</u>				
2. <u>Reason:</u>				
3. <u>Reason:</u>				
4. <u>Reason:</u>				
5. <u>Reason:</u>				
6. <u>Reason:</u>				

\*\* TCO = "Total Cost of Ownership" for one year is the cost of an average cost for one year.

TCO: <http://www.norcollege.edu/about/business-services/Pages/index.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> If your SERVICE AREA OUTCOMES (SAO) assessment results make clear that particular resources are needed to more effectively serve students please be sure to note that in the "reason" section of this form.

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Space Needs Not Covered by Current Building or Remodeling Projects\*<sup>3</sup>**

<b>List Space Needs for Academic Year</b> _____ <b>(Office space, storage, etc.,) Place items on list in order (rank) or importance.</b>	<b>Annual TCO*</b>
	Total Cost of Ownership
<b>1.</b> <u>Reason:</u>	
<b>2.</b> <u>Reason:</u>	
<b>3.</b> <u>Reason:</u>	
<b>4.</b> <u>Reason:</u>	
<b>5.</b> <u>Reason:</u>	
<b>6.</b> <u>Reason:</u>	

\*Please contact your campus VP of Business or your Director of Facilities, Operations and Maintenance to obtain an accurate cost estimate and to learn if the facilities you need are already in the planning stages.

TCO: <http://www.norcocollege.edu/about/business-services/Pages/index.aspx>

<sup>3</sup> If your SERVICE AREA OUTCOMES (SAO) assessment results make clear that particular resources are needed to more effectively serve students please be sure to note that in the “reason” section of this form.

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Professional or Organizational Development Needs\*<sup>4</sup>**

<p><b>List Professional Development Needs.</b> Reasons might include in response to assessment findings or the need to update skills to comply with state, federal, professional organization requirements or the need to update skills/competencies. Please be as specific and as brief as possible. Some items may not have a direct cost, but reflect the need to spend current staff time differently. Place items on list in order (rank) or importance.</p>	Annual TCO		
	Cost per item	Number Requested	Total Cost of Ownership
1. <u>Reason:</u>			
2. <u>Reason:</u>			
3. <u>Reason:</u>			
4. <u>Reason:</u>			
5. <u>Reason:</u>			
6. <u>Reason:</u>			

TCO: <http://www.norcocollege.edu/about/business-services/Pages/index.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> If your SERVICE AREA OUTCOMES (SAO) assessment results make clear that particular resources are needed to more effectively serve students please be sure to note that in the “reason” section of this form.



Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**11. OTHER NEEDS<sup>5</sup>**

<p><b>List Other Needs that you</b> are certain do not fit elsewhere. Please be as specific and as brief as possible. Not all needs will have a cost, but may require a reallocation of current staff time. Place items on list in order (rank) or importance.</p>	<b>Annual TCO*</b>		
	Cost per item	Number Requested	Total Cost of Ownership
<p><b>1. SPSS Renewal</b> <u>Reason:</u> <b>Budget Augmentation for Institutional Effectiveness</b>--This is for 3 annual subscriptions (1-Dean, 2-IR Specialists). At present, this is paid out of Basic Skills funds but should be paid out of general funds.</p>	<b>\$225</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$675</b>
<p><b>2. RP Research Conference</b> <u>Reason:</u> <b>Budget Augmentation for Institutional Effectiveness</b>—This is probably the most valuable IR conference and needs to be funded from General Fund instead of Basic Skills funds</p>	<b>\$1000</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$3000</b>
<p><b>3. AIR Conference</b> <u>Reason:</u> <b>Budget Augmentation for Institutional Effectiveness</b>—This would allow all staff (on a rotating basis) in the OIE to participate in the annual AIR Forum which is excellent professional development for IR. This needs to be funded from General Fund instead of Basic Skills funds</p>	<b>\$1500</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$3000</b>
<p><b>4. SurveyMonkey Renewal</b> <u>Reason:</u> <b>Budget Augmentation for Institutional Effectiveness</b>—At present, this account is paid for by Basic Skills funds. Most surveys are not basic skills focused so it should be paid out of general funds.</p>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<p><b>5. Mileage</b> <u>Reason:</u> <b>Budget Augmentation for Institutional Effectiveness</b>—There are no funds available for mileage out of Institutional Effectiveness budget at present.</p>	<b>\$1000</b>		<b>\$1000</b>

TCO: <http://www.norcocollege.edu/about/business-services/Pages/index.aspx>

<sup>5</sup> If your SERVICE AREA OUTCOMES (SAO) assessment results make clear that particular resources are needed to more effectively serve students please be sure to note that in the “reason” section of this form.

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 12. Long Term Planning Needs<sup>6</sup>

If your unit anticipates significant additional needs for personnel, equipment or facilities will occur two to five years from now please list those here*			
	Fiscal Year Needed	Number Requested	Total Cost of Ownership
<b>4. IR Specialist (50%)</b> <u>Reason:</u> At present 50% of this 1.0 permanent position is funded by the Title III STEM grant which ends 9/30/2016	<b>2016-17</b>		<b>50,100</b>
<b>2.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			
<b>3.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			
<b>4.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			
<b>5.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			
<b>6.</b> <u>Reason:</u>			

TCO: <http://www.norccollege.edu/about/business-services/Pages/index.aspx>

*\*Significant needs are generally those with annual costs over \$20,000. They may be the result, for example, of institutionalizing a grant, anticipated growth, or major equipment coming to the end of its life.*

<sup>6</sup> If your SERVICE AREA OUTCOMES (SAO) assessment results make clear that particular resources are needed to more effectively serve students please be sure to note that in the “reason” section of this form.

## Assessment

**Why Administrative Units Conduct Assessments:** Research indicates that collecting and analyzing evidence leads to improvement of institutional or unit level effectiveness. In addition it:

- Ensures units are examining their services and programs
- Documents outcomes assessment and internal improvement efforts
- Allows each unit to demonstrate how well it is performing
- Allows for requesting resources
- Relies on fact, not perception
- Allows unit staff to prioritize improvements.

### **Steps to Developing Assessment Plans & Reports**

- 1. Unit develops measurable Service Area Outcomes (SAO).** An SAO is a “specific statement that describes the benefit that a [unit] hopes to achieve or the impact [. . .] that is a result of the work that your unit performs. Outcomes should be:
  - Challenging but attainable”
  - Articulate what the unit wants to achieve
  - Indicate end results for the unit rather than actions
  - Relate to the unit’s mission and vision
  - Focus on the benefit to the recipient of the service
  - Be stable over a number of years. If it is time dependent, it is most likely a goal not an outcome; and
  - Be measurable and directly related to the work of your unit.<sup>7</sup>

Stems for writing outcomes can include:

- “In support of student learning, staff will \_\_\_\_\_”
- “Students are aware of \_\_\_\_\_”
- “Administrators (or staff) have the \_\_\_\_\_”

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<sup>7</sup> Source: The American University in Cairo. “A guide to developing and implementing effective outcomes assessment: Academic support and administrative units.” December 1, 2007. Retrieved on the internet at <http://ipart.aucegypt.edu>

**2. Unit defines how it will assess progress (non-evaluative) towards the outcomes.** The unit might consider taking an inventory of current tools being used. For example:

- What information is being collected already?
- What assessment are you already using?

Methods that can be used to measure progress include, for example:

- Student satisfaction surveys
- Number and type of complaints
- Growth in a specific function
- Comparisons to professional organizations' best practices
- Focus groups
- Opinion surveys
- Time to complete a task

**3. Unit completes the assessment plan and carries out the assessment.** In order to ensure the plan is completed:

- Designate a coordinator for the assessment project and/or assign responsibility for individual components.
- Develop a timeline indicating when work will be collected, results tabulated, analysis completed, and subsequent dialogues.

**Unit gathers information, analyzes results, communicates findings, and takes action.** This step is important as it is used to identify changes needed to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and unit performance. It should also be applied to for planning and budgeting and resource allocation requests (short term and long term). Ultimately it may be tied to the institution's ability to achieve its mission.