

**Cornell College**  
**Departmental / Program Assessment Project**  
Progress Report

Department / Program:	Career Engagement Center
Person Submitting this Form:	RJ Holmes-Leopold
Date:	May 28, 2012

Brief Overview of the Assessment Project: (refer to original Assessment Project Outline)

- Outcomes you're assessing.
- Questions your project is attempting to answer.

**Outcome:** Students will articulate the ways in which the experience has or has not advanced their knowledge about their field of interest

**Questions:**

- 1) Which experiential learning activities offered by the CEC successfully contribute most to achieving the outcome?
- 2) What, specifically, about experiential learning activities help a student gather the information needed to advance their knowledge, or lack thereof, about a field of interest?
- 3) How and using what methods do students use to articulate knowledge gained from participating in an experiential learning activity?
- 4) Following the experience, what, if anything, are students doing with knowledge gained from an experiential learning activity as it relates to their career development?

Brief Project Update:

- What have you accomplished on your assessment project this year?

We collected evaluation data on various CEC-sponsored events including Road Trips, event workshops, and Cornell Fellows Program internships. We also decided not to do focus groups this year.

Evidence Gathered:

- *Please outline in detail the information gathered for your assessment project.*
- *This information may include student work, surveys, focus groups, existing enrollment information, etc. Include any information gathered that will inform your assessment work.*

Online evaluations: Road Trips program, event workshops

Cornell Fellows: Learning and Assessment Plans, blog entries, post-fellowship reports, Showcase presentations

Year Three - Interpreting Evidence / Crafting a Plan:

*The goal for Year Three of the College's assessment cycle is to analyze and interpret the evidence gathered for purposes of enhancing educational practice. What are your plans for the coming year? Please include plans for ongoing data collection as well as analysis, interpretation, and plans for using your assessment results.*

I would like to compile all collected data into one central folder to begin analysis of information. Depending on what themes emerge, we may proceed in doing a focus group to get additional information.

Involvement:

- *Who has been involved in this project?*
- *How well informed and involved are members of the department/office?*

After each CEC event, an email is sent to program participants asking them to complete an online evaluation survey. A member of the professional staff or student staff is responsible for sending the evaluation to student attendees after each event.

Megan Hicks is responsible for gathering post-appointment information about each Cornell Fellow. This includes the Learning and Assessment Plan, blog entries, and post-fellowship report. Jason Napoli works on collecting the Cornell Fellows Showcase presentations.

Challenges / Assistance:

- *What challenges has your department/office encountered to date with your assessment project?*
- *What assistance/support do you need? From whom?*

We decided not to do focus group this year due to time and focus. We didn't feel like we had the time to do a focus group, and we weren't at a place to identify what our focus should be for each group. I am hopeful that emergent themes from the data will help us figure out what kinds of questions we might ask in a focus group in the future.

We will need help coming up with and structuring a focus group next year if we go in that direction.

Feel free to add additional comments or supporting documents to this report. Upon completion, please submit the report to Becki Elkins, Box 2628.



May 28, 2012

Your Signature

Date

Department Chair Signature

Date