



2008-2009 Assessment Plan Report

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT REPORT AY 2008-2009

Report Date: June 1, 2009
School/College: College of Professional Studies
Department/Program: Master of Information Systems (MSIS)
Person completing the Report: Dr. Moira Gunn, Program Director

1. **Overview Statement:** Briefly summarize the assessment activities that were undertaken this academic year, indicating:
 - a. which program learning outcomes were assessed this year.
 - b. who in your department/program was involved in the assessment of the above learning outcomes

As reflected in the MSIS Program Assessment Plan, the program learning outcomes addressed at this time are embodied in the two(2) core graduate courses which begin the MSIS program. They reflect **Selected Program Learning Outcomes** #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7 (excepting #4, which is a finance-based learning outcome):

- #1. Students will develop competence in systems design and analysis techniques, including core database concepts, using both hierarchical and object-oriented approaches.
- #2. Students will identify and incorporate communications, networking and information security issues as they relate to information systems, organizations, and organizational policy.
- #3. Students will utilize, evaluate, store, archive and manage emergent information systems within present-day organizations, including strategies to effectively ensure success in these activities.
- #5. Students will identify all aspects of project management relative to the information systems development life cycle and change/updates to in-place information systems, and relate these aspects to system design and relevant economic considerations.
- #6. Students will be able to produce professional quality documents ready for submission to management, professional technical implementers, and other stakeholders.
- #7. Students will integrate the collective expertise incorporated herein and reflect on the ethical and humanistic aspects of information systems.

As the two courses evaluated reflect core Information Systems learning, the Program Learning Outcomes reflect **all Program Goals:**



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- #1. Address the needs of organizations to define and develop effective information systems, both for the introduction of new systems and the enhancement of legacy systems, fostering effective communication channels for both internal and external stakeholders.
- #2. Recognize both the opportunity and demands of emergent technologies, including communications and networking, information security, publicly available information systems, and newly-available information tools.
- #3. Utilize information technology to be economically responsible, to foster sound financial systems, to create more effective organizational structures, and to understand how policy and strategic decisions are affected by information systems.
- #4. Demonstrate Information Systems-relevant people, business, and team skills, incorporating ethics, humanistic values and professionalism.

Information Systems Program Director Dr. Moira Gunn is responsible for the ongoing assessment, working with faculty and individual instructors to carry out the assessment, with the support of Program Assistant Wilma Kay. Dr. Moira Gunn, Associate Dean Richard Beer, and adjunct faculty member Ted Kreutzer will be conducting the individual assessments.

2. Please Answer the Following Questions for Each of the Student Outcomes Assessed:

a. What did you do?

Describe clearly and concisely how you assessed the learning outcomes that were evaluated this year (e.g., measures, research methods, etc.).

Dr. Moira Gunn, in association with the Information Systems faculty, will complete development and administration of the final comprehensive Systems Design project assessment and administer same to the students in two new graduate cohorts scheduled for San Francisco and Cupertino campuses, scheduled for 9/9/09-10/21/09, for the course MSIS 612 Analysis, Modeling and Design. The final project paper reflects Learning Outcomes #1, #3, #5, #6 and #7.

Associate Dean Richard Beer and Adjunct Faculty Ted Kreutzer, in association with the Information Systems faculty, will complete development and administration of the final Database project assessment and administer same to the students in two new graduate cohorts scheduled for San Francisco and Cupertino campuses, scheduled for 10/28/09-12/16/09, for the course MSIS 611 Database. The final database project reflects Learning Outcomes #1, #2 and #3.

b. What did the faculty in the department or program learn?

Summarize your findings and conclusions as a result of the assessment indicating strengths and weaknesses in student learning demonstrated by this assessment.

In the past academic year, MSIS 612 Analysis, Modeling and Design has been structured to progressively develop – week after week - a final professional paper which contains all elements of the learning objectives, yet is individual to the student.



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This report has been structured to specifically reveal and demonstrate all learning objectives therein.

MSIS 611 Database has been structured to provide a final database which reflects all elements of the learning objectives. This database and the SQL inquiry language, which supports access to it, has been structured to specifically reveal and demonstrate all learning objectives therein.

c. What will be done differently as a result of what was learned?

Discuss how courses and/or curricula will be changed to improve student learning as a result of the assessment. Include a discussion of how the faculty will help students overcome their weaknesses and improve their strengths.

In both cases - MSIS 612 Analysis, Modeling and Design and MSIS 611 Database – the precise focus on learning outcomes has influenced the final student output.

3. **Attach a copy of the components of the department/program assessment plan that have been modified since its initial submission:**
 - a. Program Mission
 - b. Program Learning Goals
 - c. Program Learning Outcomes
 - d. Program Learning Rubrics aligned with outcomes
 - e. Curriculum map that shows the courses that pertain to the outcome

There were no changes to the MSIS Program Assessment Plan.

Please return to: Provost Office by June 1, 2009

You can send your replies as either a Word attachment (to: marin@usfca.edu) or as a hard copy to: Provost Office, Lone Mountain Rossi Wing 4th floor.

If you have any questions, please contact: William Murry, Director of Institutional Assessment (wmurry@usfca.edu or x5486).