

Brittany Pittsenbarger
Administrative
Coordinator
5-3651
bpittsenbar@bsu.edu

Karen M. Morgan
Communications
Specialist
5-1872
kmmorgan@bsu.edu

Bill Knight
Assistant Provost
5-2191
wknight@bsu.edu

Irah Modry-Caron
Associate Director
5-1874
imodrycaron@bsu.edu

Wen Qi
Assistant Director
5-8919
wqi@bsu.edu

Brian Pickerill
Assistant Director
5-8678
bpickerill@bsu.edu

Elena Yatskovskaya
Assistant Director
5-8202
egyatskovska@bsu.edu

Christopher Childs
IR Information
Management Specialist
5-5209
cechilds@bsu.edu

Matthew LaFlash
Institutional Effectiveness
Analyst
5-8920
mjlaflash@bsu.edu

Published once each semester, this newsletter is designed to inform readers of the activities, information, and services provided by Ball State's Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE). *INsights* will be distributed each semester via email as well as archived on our web site.

***MAP-Works* Survey Reports Available**

For many years, Ball State has surveyed our incoming students about 3 weeks into their first semester and asked them a variety of questions related to their early semester behaviors and attitudes. This survey, Making Achievement Possible (MAP-Works), is an assessment system designed to reveal student strengths and talents, as well as to identify areas for further development.

Surveys are conducted with three unique groups: first year students, transfer students, and sophomore students. The reports for Fall 2014 summarized responses from 3,232 first-year students (89%), and 1,557 sophomore students (41%). The transfer student study was not conducted during Fall 2014 semester.

Between the two groups surveyed, approximately 86 percent of respondents reported being extremely committed to finishing their college degree, with at least 63 percent committed to doing so at Ball State.

The complete first year report is located [here](#), and the complete second year report is located [here](#).

University Core Curriculum (UCC) Tier 3 Summer 2014 Assessment

The UCC completed its first data collection and analysis project as part of its new programmatic approach to assessment of student learning outcomes during Summer 2014. This approach uses rubrics to measure student proficiency in learning outcomes that have been identified within UCC tiers, and relies upon the Blackboard Outcomes Assessment application to collect samples of student work. Faculty members evaluated the samples based upon the pre-defined rubrics.

A primary finding indicated that more than 80 percent of upper-division students in the assessment sample demonstrated proficient and highly proficient levels of written communication and critical thinking in nearly all of the rubric categories.

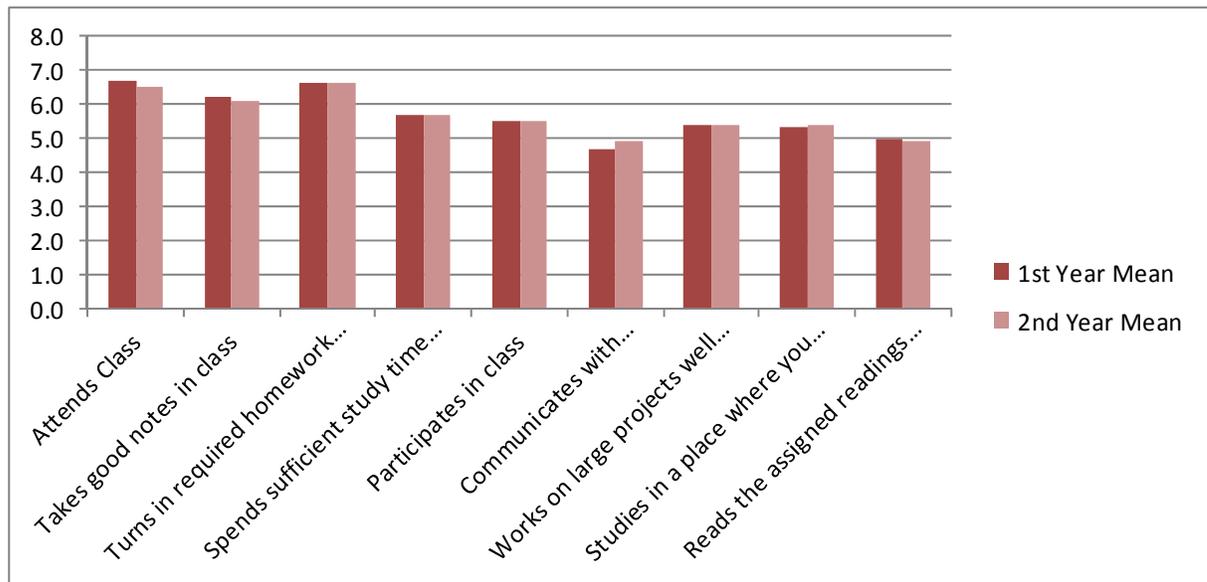
Additional information about this assessment approach and project is available in the Assessment *INsights* newsletter. The final report is located [here](#).

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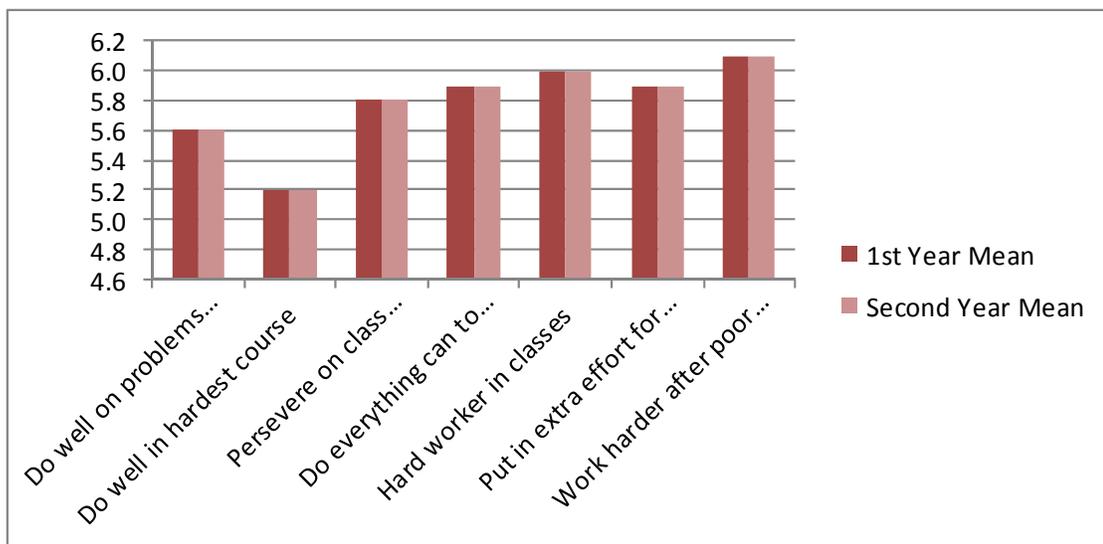
MAP-Works Fall 2014 Survey Results (Cont. from Page 1)

The level of commitment to Ball State raised to 70 percent for second-year students. About half of respondents in both groups expressed a more than moderate degree of confidence in their ability to pay for the next term’s tuition, fees, and monthly living expenses. The majority of respondents expected to receive As or Bs during the term of the survey, as well as when they complete their degrees. Between 87 and 92 percent of respondents indicated that when they know a course will be difficult they put in extra work, and are doing everything they can to meet academic goals they had set for themselves. Additional details about survey results are shown in the graphs below.

Academic Behavior and Self-Management



Academic Self Efficacy and Resiliency



Faculty Workload Handbook Revised

A complete revision of the Faculty Workload Handbook was completed during Fall semester 2014, and was posted to the Office [website](#) in November. Part I of this handbook provides a user guide to entering faculty workload in Internet Native Banner (INB), along with a description of general University policies regarding faculty load.

Part II provides a user guide for running load reports in Argos. Four academic assignment reports are available using this interface: current and past employees, non-employee graduate assistants, and an FTE report which provides the ability to get a CSV file/spreadsheet extract of all instructional and non-instructional details for current employees only.

New Publication by William Knight

Leadership and Management in Institutional Research: Enhancing Personal and Professional Effectiveness, by William Knight, will be published by the Association for Institutional Research in January 2015. The book was developed as a result of the 2012 Institutional Research (IR) Leadership Development Needs Analysis Survey. Topics include managing the office budget; goals and priorities, time management and effective meetings; improving IR office effectiveness; emotional intelligence in the IR workplace; effective hiring; performance appraisal; mentoring, professional development, and difficult personnel situations; negotiating campus politics; promoting information use; leadership frames and practices; and taking care of yourself and managing your career.

Ball State OIE Represented at National and State Conferences

In October 2014, Bill Knight participated as a panelist in a webinar on "Advancing to Senior-Level Position in IE" sponsored by the Association for Higher Education Effectiveness.

In November 2014, Bill Knight conducted a pre-conference workshop and the keynote address at the Association for Institutional Research in the Upper Midwest, located in Minneapolis, MN. The pre-conference workshop was entitled *Leadership in IR and IE: Enhancing personal and professional effectiveness*. The keynote address was entitled *The future of IR and IE: New roles, skills, new collaborations*.

Other presentations by OIE employees included one in November 2014, when Karen Morgan presented a paper at the National Communications Association convention held in Chicago, IL, entitled *Susa Young Gates: Early Mormon feminist, a rhetorical analysis of selected writings*.

New Staff

Brittany Pittsenbarger joined the Office as the Administrative Coordinator in June 2014. She has been a resident of Muncie her whole life; graduating from Muncie Central, and obtaining her associate's degree in Paralegal Studies from Ivy Tech Community College in 2011.

As an Administrative Coordinator, Brittany manages the student workers, handles the financial end of the office, administers Major field Tests and ACAT exams across all departments, coordinates the Freshmen Orientation Survey, and assists the Assistant Provost, Dr. William Knight.

She loves spending time with her two children and fiancé who she will be marrying in May.

Matthew LaFlash joined the Office in July 2014 as Institutional Effectiveness Analyst. He holds bachelor's degrees in Spanish and Biology, and a master's degree in Information and communication Sciences from Ball State. Matt works primarily with the Graduate School, Online and Distance Education, and the Rinker Center for International Programs, responding to data requests and external surveys.

Prior to joining the Office, Matt worked in Residential and Student Affairs at the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, and as a Copy Cataloger for the Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library.

Matt and his wife, Claudia (formerly a Graduation Coordinator in the Graduate School), recently welcomed their first child, Madeline Ann, into their family on December 9th. A healthy baby girl, she arrived at 6:49 pm and weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. Both mom and baby are doing well.

Projects Underway and Recently Completed

- Summer assessment grant projects have been completed, and reports are linked on the Summer [Assessment Grant Reports](#) page.
- Worked with the Teachers College Dean and staff to develop a series of enrollment reports
- Completed the 2013-2014 University strategic plan metric update
- Providing support for the Faculty Retention Task Force
- Supported Ball State's participation in the Multi-State Collaborative to Advance Learning Outcomes Assessment
- Met with President Ferguson and faculty and staff working group to discuss revisions to the Workplace Environment Survey
- Facilitated a workshop on assessment of student learning outcomes for Housing and Residence Life
- Facilitated (along with a colleague from iLearn) workshops on "Using Blackboard Outcomes Assessment for Assessment Within the Majors"
- Worked with several academic departments concerning retention and graduation and switching majors
- Work with academic departments to identify peers for comparison of the results of the 2012-2013 National Study of Instructional Costs and Productivity (Delaware Study).
- Continuing to work with an external evaluator for a Lilly-funded project concerning student internships at Ball State
- The online [Faculty Workload Handbook](#) was completely updated to reflect current technology and practice.
- Information about degrees awarded, majors, course enrollments, and student credit hours has been updated for Fall 2014.

Recent Projects Now Available Online **Office of Institutional Effectiveness**

For information on Official Statistics,
click on the following links:

- [Common Data Set](#)
- [Student Consumer Information](#)
- [Department Profiles](#)
- [Faculty FTE Load Distribution](#) reports (department, college, and university levels)
- Other [Department Reports](#), including degrees awarded, student course enrollments, student credit hours, and majors declared

For information on Surveys, Studies and Other
Resources, click on the following links:

- [MAP-Works First Year Student Survey](#) (Fall 2014 results)
- [MAP-Works Sophomore Student Survey](#) (Fall 2014 results)
- [Faculty Library Survey](#)