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Moving Towards a Data-Informed Community through Collaborative Assessment Practices

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12/9/2018

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Agenda

- Introductions and Organizational Structure
- Capacity Building
- Student Learning Outcomes Assessment
- Data Utilization and Collaboration
- Application of Knowledge
- Questions and Dialogue

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Learning Outcomes

- Understand roles of OPEIR in collaborative methods of data utilization
- Understand how capacity building supports continuous improvement
- Identify specific collaborative methods to assess student learning and service outcomes
- Develop ways to encourage capacity building and apply specific methods at your institution

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Organizational Structure

Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Institutional Research

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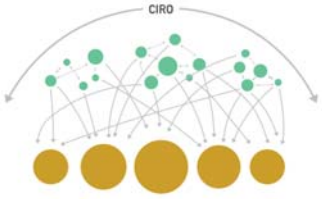
Matrix Model



The goal of a matrix model is to assure that informed decisions routinely occur across the University in an efficient and effective manner (Swing & Ross, 2016).

- Broader range of decision makers are supported by the IR function
- Student focus is maintained without disrupting required reporting and support

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Capacity Building

An ***intentional process*** to increase ***individual motivation, knowledge, and skills***, and to ***enhance a group or organization's ability*** to conduct ***evaluation*** (Labin, 2014).

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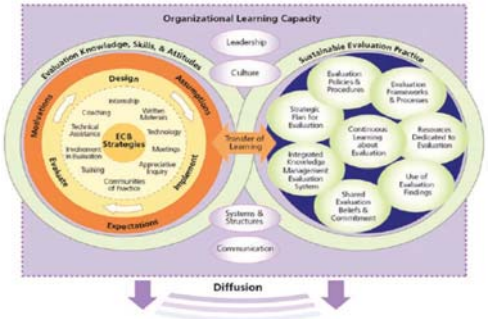
Multidisciplinary Model Of Evaluation Capacity Building



Preskill, H. & Boyle, S. (2008). A multidisciplinary model of evaluation capacity building. *American Journal of Evaluation, 29*(4), p. 443-459.

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History of OPEIR

- OPEIR: official source of data, but previously virtually unknown across campus
- Core responsibilities:
  - Federal, State, and Local Reporting
  - Assessment (Learning Outcomes, General Education, Student Support Services)
  - Strategic Planning
  - Program Review
  - New Academic Program Proposals

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Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

- Support from administrative leadership
- Communicate assessment requirements and expectations
- Hold training sessions for faculty, staff, and administrators
- Implement processes and timeline – continue training and open labs

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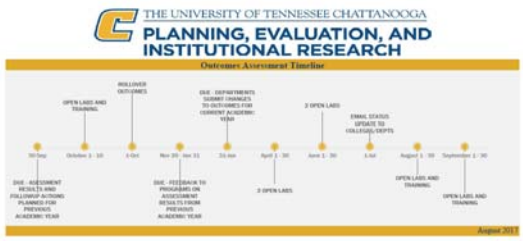
Outcomes Assessment Timeline



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Expanding Our Reach

- OPEIR now works with many divisions within the university to collaborate and provide assistance with assessment needs
  - Enrollment Management and Student Success
  - Walker Center for Teaching and Learning
  - College of Engineering and Computer Science
  - University Career Services
  - UTC Graduate School

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Data Utilization and Collaboration

- Efficient and effective communication and increased involvement across campus
- Focus on building relationships
- Identify and collaborate with super users across campus
- Provide training
- Resource for research methodologies, evaluation, and assessment

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Examples

- IAE Committee
- EAB (Campus and Guide)
- New Faculty Orientation
- General Education
- Student Success (15-4, Bridge)
- Program Profiles (CECS)
- Career Development Alliance/Handshake
- Grad Council
- CADH

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Brainstorming and Application

- What is one thing you wish you knew about your students?
- How have you tried to gain that information in the past?
- Based on our examples, can you think of innovative ways to collaborate with IR staff on your campus to gain the information you need?
- What challenges do you foresee and how could you potentially address them?

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Wrap-Up and Questions

- Training, technology, communities of practice, and collaboration are methods to increase assessment and evaluation practices on your campus.
- Building relationships is a key element of capacity building and effective OIR practices.
- OIR staff are your friends.
- Questions?

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Thank you!