The Office of the Dean of Students (ODOS) seeks to facilitate the integration of the academic experience of students with all aspects of the university and student life by establishing policies based upon as much information as possible. We are therefore dedicated to the advancement of student success through assessment. ODOS accomplishes this through several channels.

- ODOS has been administering several surveys for decades which have informed improvements and innovations in our services to meet the strategic initiatives of the university and the needs of students, (e.g., CIRP Freshman Survey, Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, and others).
- The Chair and members of the Assessment Council led a strategic planning process for the Office of the Dean of Students resulting in new initiatives for 2015-2018 fiscal years.
- ODOS maintains a Student Affairs Assessment website (odos.illinois.edu/assessment/) that provides information about surveys conducted, informational links to assessment resources, data contacts, and lists the availability of data and reports.
- Through the Student Affairs Research Approval Process (SARA) ODOS functions as a clearinghouse for research on Illinois students. The SARA form can be found at odos.illinois.edu/assessment/.
- ODOS has an Assessment Council which consists of members of the Office of Dean of Students whom convene to provide leadership and direction for a strategic assessment program. The primary charge to the Assessment Council is to establish and monitor the assessment agenda for Dean of Students and its collaborating units and to act as a learning community.
- The Illinois Pulse (odos.illinois.edu/assessment/pulse/2013_spring.asp) is a tool that assists in closing the information loop by publishing selected data from the most recent surveys. It provides an opportunity for Illinois students to learn about each other and how they compare to other students nationally.

A data request form can be found at odos.illinois.edu/assessment/data.asp for such survey data as Your First College Year, CIRP Freshman Survey, and CORE Alcohol Survey. In addition, selected reports and PowerPoints are also available upon request.

For more information please contact Dr. Belinda De La Rosa, Director of Assessment and the Testing Center at (217) 333-0050 or blarosa@illinois.edu.

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Excerpt from the ODOS 2015-2018 Strategic Plan

ODOS Goals & Objectives with Examples of Initiatives:

G.1 Foster scholarship, collaboration, discovery, and innovation
   0.1 Create/support opportunities to engage in scholarship, collaboration, discovery, and innovation
   OSCR-I.1 Office of Student Conflict Resolution will develop a certification process to increase the number of employees trained to serve as advocates for complainants and respondents in sexual misconduct cases by FY 18
   0.2 Create a mechanism for rewarding and recognizing scholarship, collaboration, and innovation
   PD-I.2 Professional Development Committee will develop a recognition and reward mechanism for scholarship, collaboration, and innovation by FY 18
   0.3 Create and enhance evidence-based practices through strategic assessment initiatives
   FSA-I.1 Fraternity & Sorority Affairs will create an assessment agenda, implement it, and analyze data that identifies FSA’s impact on the student experience, student learning and skill development

G.2 Provide transformative learning experiences
   0.1 Promote student success by creating meaningful co-curricular, employment, leadership, internship, and assistantship opportunities
   NSP-I.2 New Student Programs will create a theory to practice curriculum for its Graduate Assistants that connects their classroom experience with learning outcomes from work responsibilities, new initiatives, and other duties as assigned
   0.2 Develop student learning outcomes for programs or services and assess them
   PD-I.3 Learning outcomes for current assistantships will be developed and assessed
   0.3 Promote and create opportunities for students to learn about and engage in meaningful dialogue with individuals from other cultures
   NSP-I.3 New Student Programs will develop a cross-cultural training experience for NSP student leaders to improve their multi-cultural competency

G.3 Make a significant and visible community impact
   0.1 Create an environment that encourages, supports, and engages staff in professional development at the individual, departmental, regional, and national levels
   PD-I.4 Professional Development Committee will continue to enhance and make more robust professional development workshops
   0.2 Create an atmosphere of inquiry, love of learning, and continuous improvement through a process of ongoing assessment
   VSSS-I.3 Veteran Student Support Services will create an electronic survey to assess its students’ needs, its program’s learning outcomes for students, and its students’ overall satisfaction in FY 16
   0.3 Articulate the story of the impact that ODOS has on the Illinois community through cohesive, meaningful, and inspirational messages that can be shared through various media
   SAC-I.4 SAC will initiate a “Coffee and Conversation” series for faculty focused on furthering their understanding of our work and the ways in which we can collaborate as we support students by FY 16
   0.4 Impart to students a consistent message around the concept of ethical engagement
   SLS-I.7 Student Legal Services will provide students with quality preventative and ethical legal educational programming

G.4 Steward current resources and generate additional resources for strategic investment
   0.1 Explore additional revenues, especially in robust advancement and fundraising efforts to meet ODOS goals
   TC-I.1 Testing Center will seek out additional revenue streams by partnering with other testing companies, increasing the number of individual exams, and promoting the proctor pool
   0.2 Enhance sustainability efforts of our units and engage in the responsible and strategic management of resources
   IT-I.4 Information Technology will develop an inventory management system by FY16
   0.3 Increase transparency and accountability of resources
   SAC-I.5 Re-examine and begin to re-define the Emergency Dean Fund with the intention of making the fund more widely accessible and beneficial to students (without affecting their financial aid package) by Fall 2015