

2016-2017 Assessment Cycle COLA_Center for Louisiana Studies

Mission (due 1/20/17)

University Mission

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette offers an exceptional education informed by diverse worldviews grounded in tradition, heritage, and culture. We develop leaders and innovators who advance knowledge, cultivate aesthetic sensibility, and improve the human condition.

University Values

We strive to create a community of leaders and innovators in an environment that fosters a desire to advance and disseminate knowledge. We support the mission of the university by actualizing our core values of equity, integrity, intellectual curiosity, creativity, tradition, transparency, respect, collaboration, pluralism, and sustainability.

University Vision

We strive to be included in the top 25% of our peer institutions by 2020, improving our national and international status and recognition.

College / Department / Program Mission

College Mission

Provide the college mission in the space provided. If none is available, write "None Available in 2016-2017."

The College of Liberal Arts is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge through teaching, research, and service. The College teaches students to think critically, applying scientific principles and intellectual schema to understand human behavior and society in a diverse world, to express ideas and ideals in a variety of forms, and to understand themselves and others as members of regional and global communities. The intellectual and creative foundations of this enterprise are written and oral communication, analytical and reasoning skills, and the ability to solve problems creatively. Each departmental curriculum presents perspectives from the past, provides an understanding of the present and directs attention to the challenges of the future. As active researchers, faculty in the College work to advance the frontiers of knowledge and our understanding of humanity and the world we live in, and to use that knowledge and understanding to improve the human condition.

Department / Program Mission

Provide the department / program mission in the space provided. If none is available, write "None Available in 2016-2017".

Established in 1973, the Center for Louisiana Studies (CLS) promotes scholarly investigation into Louisiana's rich cultures and heritage through acquisition, research, publication, and interpretation.

The Center for Louisiana Studies is made up of three complementary divisions. These three components provide a comprehensive structure for researching, publicizing, and promoting Louisiana's cultures.

Assessment Plan (due 1/20/17)

Assessment List (Goals / Objectives, Assessment Measures and Criteria for Success)

Assessment List

Goal/Objective	Disseminate historical scholarship through publication of Louisiana History, the official organ of the Louisiana Historical Association.								
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Goal/Objective	Digitize and catalog audio and video fieldwork materials relating to Acadiana's history and folklore held in the Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore.								
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Goal/Objective	Working with state, regional, and local groups in addition to private businesses, the Programming and Special Projects division advises and participates in projects designed to stimulate Louisiana's economy through preservation and promotion of Louisiana's cultures and peoples. These activities are supported by grants, donations, and the Center's fundraising efforts. The Center also encourages researchers to visit and work with Center staff on their projects, and it assists in the development of new resources, from tourism initiatives to preservation efforts, interdisciplinary fieldwork, multimedia presentations, creative placemaking strategies, and heritage consultation.								
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Results & Improvements (due 9/15/17)

Results and Improvement Narratives

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Disseminate historical scholarship through publication of Louisiana History, the official organ of the Louisiana Historical Association.

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	Indirect - Indirect - Activity Volume (Other) (Other)	Has the criterion Prepare, edit and Publish Four Issues of Louisiana History per year. Four successful issues been met yet? Met	Published four issues with a subscription list of 1,100.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Promote interaction and collaboration among Louisiana historians

Goal/Objective	Promote interaction and collaboration among Louisiana historians				
Legends	OO - Outcome/Objective (administrative units);				
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	Indirect - Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Count actual number of attendees at Louisiana Historical Association's annual meeting, organized by CLS, including the number of students presenting papers at the convention's Louisiana Phi Alpha Theta (history honor society) sessions.
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Assessment Findings

Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives
Indirect - Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Has the criterion Count actual number of attendees at Louisiana Historical Association's annual meeting, organized by CLS, including the number of students presenting papers at the convention's Louisiana Phi Alpha Theta (history honor society) sessions. been met yet? Met	The annual LHA meeting had 210 attendees, counting student participants.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.
Indirect - Focus Groups	Has the criterion The board of the Louisiana Historical Association Meeting regularly convenes during and after the meeting and makes strategy and policy decisions for improving the following year's meeting. One successful conference per year. been met yet? Met	The LHA met in Shreveport on March 16-18, 2017.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Disseminate historical scholarship through maintenance of a journal exchange program

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	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Has the criterion Report number of hours of digitized and cataloged materials. been met yet? Met	Restored and digitized approximately 600 hours of archival materials. Cataloged approximately 800 hours.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.
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Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Recruit new additions to archival holdings of the Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore.

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	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Has the criterion Report number of new collections or materials added to Archives of Cajun and Creole Folklore been met yet? Met	22 collections were either created or added to.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.

Assessment List Findings for the Assessment Measure level for Organize and coordinate academic talks, public lectures, and discussion series, including Bayou State Book Talks.

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Assessment Findings	<table border="1" data-bbox="375 667 1526 1087"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="375 667 573 772">Assessment Measure</th> <th data-bbox="573 667 753 772">Criterion</th> <th data-bbox="753 667 1052 772">Summary</th> <th data-bbox="1052 667 1268 772">Attachments of the Assessments</th> <th data-bbox="1268 667 1526 772">Improvement Narratives</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="375 772 573 1087">Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)</td> <td data-bbox="573 772 753 1087">Has the criterion List research activities of Center staff. been met yet? Met</td> <td data-bbox="753 772 1052 1087">Center staff have engaged in ongoing research on Louisiana dancehalls, Cajun and Creole musicians, Mardi Gras beadmaking, masking traditions, and twentieth-century Louisiana politics.</td> <td data-bbox="1052 772 1268 1087"></td> <td data-bbox="1268 772 1526 1087">- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Assessment Measure	Criterion	Summary	Attachments of the Assessments	Improvement Narratives	Indirect - Activity Volume (Other)	Has the criterion List research activities of Center staff. been met yet? Met	Center staff have engaged in ongoing research on Louisiana dancehalls, Cajun and Creole musicians, Mardi Gras beadmaking, masking traditions, and twentieth-century Louisiana politics.		- Assessment Process: Continuous monitoring: This goal/objective is the same every year and will not change.
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Reflection (Due 9/15/17)

Reflection

1) How were assessment results shared in the unit?

Please select all that apply. If "other", please use the text box to elaborate.

Distributed via email

Presented formally at staff / department / committee meetings

Discussed informally (selected)

Other (explain in text box below)

2) How frequently were assessment results shared in the unit?

Frequently (>4 times per cycle)

Periodically (2-4 times per cycle) (selected)

Once per cycle

Results were not shared this cycle

3) With whom were assessment results shared?

Please select all that apply.

Department Head

Dean / Asst. or Assoc. Dean

Departmental assessment committee

Other faculty / staff (selected)

4) What were the measurable or perceivable effects on your current (2016-2017) findings based on prior action plans (created in 2015-2016)?

As the goals and mission of the Center for Louisiana Studies remain relatively constant, it is difficult to determine whether the effects reflected the prior action plans.

5) What has the unit learned from the current assessment cycle?

That perhaps we take on too many projects for our limited number of staff. If new positions were to be created, particularly one that handled public communications, the other staff members would have more time to devote to research, archival, or community-oriented work.

Attachments