The purpose of Institutional Research Briefs is to inform others of the types of information available from the Office of Institutional Research and to provide a brief summary of some of the projects we’re working on along with the findings. Institutional Research Briefs will be published two to three times a year and distributed to the campus community as well as archived on our website.

Collegiate Learning Assessment Measures Student Learning

The Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) is an assessment tool designed to assist colleges across the United States with directly measuring student learning outcomes. UND is utilizing the CLA test for the first time this year. 110 freshmen took the CLA in the fall and approximately 100 seniors will test the end of February.

During the CLA, students complete either a performance task, where they are given a "library" of information from which they draw various conclusions, or a writing task where they complete two essays. Student responses are graded for critical thinking, analytic reasoning, problem solving, and written communication. Upon completion, CLA provides each student with their score, an expected score based on their entering academic level (ACT), and whether they are above, at, or below their expected level of performance. In August, UND will receive a report comparing the freshman scores to the senior scores, with a “value-added” component. This value-added score indicates gains made throughout the undergraduate experience.

Since critical thinking and writing skills are included in UND’s Essential Studies goals, we hope these findings will guide improvements to programs ensuring UND students develop strong skills in these areas.

The Survey Says...

UND freshman and seniors were invited to participate in the 2009 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) during last spring semester. The results of the survey are posted on the internet at http://www.und.edu/dept/datacol/reports/subFolder/NSSE2009/NSSE2009.htm. This survey, administered every two years, focuses on assessing student engagement in NSSE’s 5 benchmark areas of academic challenge, active and collaborative learning, student-faculty interaction, enriching educational experiences, and supportive campus environment. NSSE allows UND to compare results to other four-year institutions.

The inset pages of this Briefs provides a summary of UND institutional results. The OIR website also provides results at the college level.

In the next couple of months, please watch for our U2 presentation which will discuss NSSE results. If you have questions regarding this survey, please contact our office.

USAT Forms
Thank you very much for using the labels from our website on your USAT packets. This saves us a lot of time when we are organizing the packets to return to you with your summaries. http://www.und.edu/dept/datacol/usat/index.htm

Did You Know?
49 US states are represented in UND’s Fall 2009 enrollment.

Beginning in 2008 (and true for 2009), UND enrolls more incoming new freshmen from MN than ND.
Executive Summary

The National Survey for Student Engagement (NSSE) is the best known national project for measuring student engagement. The survey, administered by the Indiana Center for Postsecondary Research, measures the extent to which students engage in practices understood to be effectively linked with learning outcomes, personal development, student satisfaction, and graduation. Students actively involved in both academic and out-of-class activities have been found to gain more from the college experience than those who are not involved. In the spring of 2009, 1,873 first-year (FY) students and 1,452 senior (SR) students were invited to participate in NSSE at UND. 528 FY students and 425 SR students responded to the survey, for a response rate of 29%. This was the fifth time UND has participated in NSSE. NSSE summarizes results into 5 benchmarks:

1. **Level of Academic Challenge** – an institution’s ability to establish a challenging intellectual and creative environment for students.

2. **Active and Collaborative Learning** – The level at which students are asked to collaborate with others in solving problems or mastering difficult material.

3. **Student Interactions with Faculty Members** – The extent to which students interact with faculty members inside and outside of the classroom.

4. **Enriching Educational Experiences** – An institution’s ability to foster complementary learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom to augment academic programs.

5. **Supportive Campus Environment** – The extent to which institutions cultivate positive working and social relations among different groups on campus.

UND results in 2009 show promise, as increases are seen in the raw score for each of the five benchmark areas over the scores recorded in 2007. UND results, however, lag the benchmark means scored by respondents from research universities with high activity (RU/H) for all categories with the lone exception of Supportive Campus Environment.

UND FY respondents score means statistically significantly lower than their peers at RU/H institutions for four of the benchmark means; the exception is UND’s FY mean of 60.2 on Supportive Campus Environment which ties the benchmark scored by RU/H FY respondents. The largest gap between UND and RU/H FY students is in the area of Enriching Educational Experiences, with UND FY students scoring 22.7 compared to 28.1 scored by FY students at RU/H institutions.

UND SR respondents score higher than their peers at RU/H institutions on the Student-Faculty Interaction benchmark, however the difference is not statistically significant (41.3 for UND SR respondents compared to 40.9 for RU/H SR respondents). UND SR respondents are statistically significantly behind their peers on just one of the five benchmarks – Enriching Educational Experiences – where their mean score of 37.1 lags that of RU/H institutions who score a mean of 40.8.
National Survey of Student Engagement Survey 2009 Results

A total of 953 students (528 first-year and 425 seniors) participated in the 2009 NSSE.

FY = first-year students, SR = seniors, RU/H = Research Universities - High Activity

NSSE Benchmarks Mean Score for 5 Indicators of Effective Educational Practice

Numbers for UND are weighted against High Research respondents by gender, enrollment status, and institutional size.

Academic Advising
rate the quality you have received

Entire Educational Experience
evaluate your experience at this institution

Percent of Students Participating in High-Impact Educational Practices

Would You Attend Again
if you could start over
UND Progress Report

The 2008-09 UND Progress Report is available on our website. This publication highlights each of the different priority action areas from UND's Strategic Plan, reporting on a number of the indicators. To view this report and past progress reports, please check out the link at www.und.nodak.edu/dept/datacol/prreport/index.htm.

UND Fact Book

The UND Fact Book contains a collection of facts pertaining to the University and enrollment. The Fact Book is designed to provide a general overview of University statistics, student demographics and other UND information. The Fact Book can be used as a primary university information source. We invite you to view the 2009-2010 and previous Fact Books on our website at http://www.und.nodak.edu/dept/datacol/factbook/index.htm.

Recent Projects Now Available Online

2009 Progress Report (of 2005 Strategic Plan Goals)
IR Clip: Study Abroad – Who are the participants?
Fact Book
Official 4th week enrollment reports
Degree tabulations
Demographic Map
Faculty Salary Studies
2009 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)

Projects Underway

2009 College Senior Survey (CIRP-CSS)
USAT reporting and distribution
2009-10 Placement Survey
2009 Delaware Study (Engineering & Nursing)

Other projects forthcoming (spring semester)

2009 Freshman Survey (CIRP) (analysis)
2009 Withdrawing/Non-returning Student Survey (analysis)
2009 National Internship & Co-op Study (analysis)
CLA testing of seniors
Alumni Outcomes Survey
UG Students & Information Technology Survey (ECAR)
Employer Satisfaction Survey
Sophomore Satisfaction Survey
Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI)
Priorities Survey for Online Learners (PSOL)

Spring 2010 U2 Session

“What Students Are Saying About UND”

To find out more information please go to http://www.und.edu/dept/datacol/reports/surveydesc.html.