Current Assessment Plan

Student Orientation Advising & Registration (SOAR)
- Online Assessment/Evaluation survey completed at the end of each SOAR session. Questions relate to Student Learning Outcomes (Self-Evaluation) and then Student Satisfaction.

New Student Orientation (NSO)
- Assessment/Evaluation completed at the end of each NSO Session either by scantron paper (AN, LO and MA) or response technology (AL & WO).
- Post Test attached to survey with questions related to engagement, resources, academic planning and identifying college administrators.

Further Recommended Assessment: SOAR & NSO Focus Groups

Purpose
- Used to assess students’ satisfaction and the effectiveness of orientation programming at NOVA in preparing them for their first semester. To assess student learning in areas that impact student success. To address feedback pertaining to the results of the previous SOAR and NSO assessment.

Recommended Time
- One session per campus with 8-10 students in October/November to give time for students to reflect after about 8 weeks into the semester. One hour in length.

Participants
- New NOVA students who have attended both SOAR and NSO in the Summer 2010.

Options for Selection of Participants
- Selected randomly via EMPL ID’s from the NSO attendees at each campus.
- An open invitation to all students who participated to volunteer and select participants from respondents.

Resources Needed
- Incentives—Food and Bookstore Gift Certificates for each participant (50).
• Location at each campus (provided by Dean of Students) at a time that will maximize student attendance.
• Additional volunteer faculty and staff to assist in moderating/note-taking (i.e. Kathleen Lloyd, Sherry Spiegel and one more person who has participated in Achieve the Dream-AtD focus groups in the past).
• Supplies for Note-taking.

**Reporting**
• A complete focus group report will be provided to the Office of Institutional Research.
• Report will be shared with the Deans Working Group and NSO Taskforce.

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**New Student Orientation Taskforce**

**Purpose, Objectives, and Learning Outcomes 2010-2011**

**SOAR (Student Orientation Advising & Registration)**

*The purpose of the SOAR Program is to provide sessions that will assist new college students in becoming academically oriented while introducing students to resources and technology for advising, registration, and college support services.*

**Objective I-** To introduce students to the resources and technology for enrollment management, advising and planning

- Learning Outcome 1-Students will understand the processes and techniques for course selection.
- Learning Outcome 2-Students will use print and technological resources to understand the requirements for their degree or program of study.
- Learning Outcome 3-Students will understand course scheduling options and registration process (NOVACONNECT).
- Learning Outcome 4-Students will understand the importance of ensuring that their records are current (i.e. biographical/academic data, declaring major).

**Objective II-** To provide students with information of the college student support services available to promote student success

- Learning Outcome 1-Students will understand the importance of identifying and making connections with faculty/advisors/counselors
- Learning Outcome 2-Students will understand the importance of enrolling in SDV to foster success.
- Learning Outcome 3-Students will understand the college financial aid process (scholarships, loan, grants, etc.).
- Learning Outcome 4-Students will understand the institution’s payment process.

**New Student Orientation**

*The purpose of the NSO is to provide students with a sense of community, connectedness, and basic knowledge with which to begin their studies and be successful learners at Northern Virginia Community College.*
Objective I–To provide students with an orientation to the mission, value and purpose of Northern Virginia Community College

- Learning Outcome 1-Students will understand the role of the community college.
- Learning Outcome 2-Students will be able to identify the types of degree and certificate programs (transfer and career oriented), as well as their program.
- Learning Outcome 3-Students will learn the expectations of both faculty and students (i.e. academic integrity [code of conduct], mutual respect, ethical values and appreciating cultural differences).
- Learning Outcome 4-Students will be advised of the commitment of the college to their success.

Objective II- To provide students with information of the college student support services available to promote student success

- Learning Outcome 1-Students will understand the importance of identifying and making connections with faculty/advisors/counselors
- Learning Outcome 2-Students will understand the support services available through LRS (library, computer and learning labs).
- Learning Outcome 3-Students will learn how to access tutoring, academic support services and faculty through office hours.
- Learning Outcome 4-Students will understand the various counseling workshops, seminars and services at each campus (transfer, career, military/veterans, disabilities, retention, etc.).
- Learning Outcome 5-Students will understand the importance of enrolling in SDV to foster success.
- Learning Outcome 6-Students will understand the college financial aid process (scholarships, loan, grants, etc.).
- Learning Outcome 7-Students will understand the institution’s payment process.

Objective III- To enhance the college experience by providing information about co-curricular activities and programs

- Learning Outcome 1-Students will learn how to become involved in campus events, fairs, community service, leadership development, clubs/organizations, sports, diversity celebrations and NOVA IDOL.
- Learning Outcome 2-Students will understand the importance of their involvement in campus life.

Objective IV-To provide students with the physical layout and overview of campus facilities

- Learning Outcome 1-Students will familiarize themselves with buildings and offices.
- Learning Outcome 2-Students will understand how to contact campus police in case of emergencies.
- Learning Outcome 3-Students will learn how to obtain NOVACARD and parking permits.
- Learning Outcome 4-Students will understand the importance of participating in a safe environment.