2012-2013 Assessment Report
Department/Unit: COSAM Academic Affairs

College of Sciences & Mathematics

COSAM Academic Affairs

Expected Outcome 1: Academic Decision Making
After meeting with an advisor, COSAM students will report that they are better able to make academic decisions.

Assessment Method 1: Point in Time Student Survey
Assessment Method Description
COSAM freshmen and sophomore students were surveyed during registration. The survey is online and is voluntary at the end of their advising session. They were asked to respond to the statement "I understood what I needed to do or what decisions I needed to make."

Findings
These students reported an average of 4.72 on a 5-point Likert-type scale.

How did you use findings for improvement?

Additional Comments

Assessment Method 2: Graduating Seniors
Assessment Method Description
Graduating seniors from 2012-2013 were surveyed. Due to a conversion in survey systems, much of this data was lost. The current results reflect summer 2012 and fall 2013 graduates. N=58.

Findings
Seniors responded to the statement "My advisor helped me make better informed decisions" with an average of 4.05 on a 5-point Likert-type scale.

How did you use findings for improvement?
Seniors appear to be less enthusiastic about the role of an advisor in helping them with academic decisions than freshmen and sophomores. Seniors have spent at least two years, possibly three with a faculty advisor, rather than the advisors in this office. This
fall, our Associate Dean is holding meetings with faculty advisors in departments to explain new advising tools and requirements to them. Hopefully, we will glean topics upon which faculty need additional training, and provide that support to them to better help students.

Additional Comments

**Expected Outcome 2: Advisor's Professional Development**
COSAM's professional advisors will have a consistent and continuous record of professional development and creative endeavors.

**Assessment Method 1: Activity Reports**

**Assessment Method Description**
COSAM advisors will submit activity reports to their supervisor. All advisors will be active in professional development and creative activities.

**Findings**
All advisors are active in creative and professional projects. Each advisor is involved in on-campus, regional, and national advising conventions. One advisor won Outstanding Advising awards from both Auburn and the National Academic Advising Association.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**
Although all advisors are active, two advisors are very new. All advisors will be required to participate in the new on-campus advising training programs, as well as encouraged to participate in additional training through AU Professional Development.

Additional Comments

**Assessment Method 2: Presentations**

**Assessment Method Description**
COSAM advisors will present at local/regional/national meetings. At least one presentation within the group per year; no single advisor will go more than three years without a presentation at a meeting.

**Findings**
One advisor presented at meetings last year. No single advisor has
gone more than three years without a presentation.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**
Two of the three advisors have been here less than one year. They are both aiming for promotion in the next two years, and need presentations to reach that goal. They are both attending the NACADA conference this fall, with the goal of developing a presentation for the next academic year.

**Additional Comments**

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**Expected Outcome 3: Overall Satisfaction**
COSAM students will be satisfied overall with the advising services provided by COSAM Student Services.

**Assessment Method 1:** Point in Time survey

**Assessment Method Description**
COSAM freshmen and sophomores were surveyed after registration advising. Students were asked to rate their overall satisfaction with the advising they received.

**Findings**
They reported an average of 4.67 on a 5-point Likert-type scale.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**
Although our students are very satisfied once they have seen an advisor, many report being confused about the registration process and how to accomplish getting registered. We are adding two registration workshops for new students. They will be held for 90 minutes at night for students to come in, ask questions of professional and peer advisors, and get all their paperwork completed for their registration advising session.

**Additional Comments**

**Assessment Method 2:** Graduating Seniors

**Assessment Method Description**
Graduating seniors are surveyed. Much of the 2012-2013 data was lost in a survey conversion. These data are from Summer 2013 and Fall 2013 graduates. N=58. They are asked to respond to their
overall satisfaction with our advising services.

**Findings**
Seniors report an average of 4.16 on the "overall satisfaction with advising" question.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**
The meetings with departmental faculty advisors currently being held by our Associate Dean should help faculty advisors to be more responsive and proactive in advising students.

**Additional Comments**