

ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR

Youth and Family Ministry
(Instructional Degree Program)

B. A.
(Degree Level)

August 2007 - August 2008
(Assessment Period Covered)

Sept. 1, 2008
(Date Submitted)

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose Linkage:

Institutional Mission Reference: Harding's mission is to provide a quality education leading to an understanding of life consistent with Christian ideals.

College/University Goal(s) Supported: The University provides programs that enable students to acquire essential knowledge, skills, and dispositions in their academic disciplines for successful careers, advanced studies, and servant leadership.

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes:

1. Students completing a Youth and Family Ministry major will be qualified for entry-level positions in their chosen areas of ministry.

2. Students completing a Youth and Family Ministry major will have an adequate knowledge base for post-baccalaureate studies in Youth and Family Ministry.

3. Students completing a Youth and Family Ministry major will have confidence in their preparation for ministry.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

NOTE: There should be one form C for each intended outcome listed on form B. Intended outcome should be restated in the box immediately below and the intended outcome number entered in the blank spaces.

1. Students completing a Youth and Family Ministry major will be qualified for entry-level positions in their chosen areas of ministry.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: At least 65% of graduates will earn a satisfactory or above evaluation on a supervised internship in ministry (based on evaluations by an on-site supervisor and recorded on a standard evaluation form).

1a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Of the 19 supervisor evaluations on file (11 in Youth and Family, 4 in Missions, 3 in Bible and Religion, and 1 in Biblical Languages) for 2007-2008, 18 out of 19 were rated "satisfactory or above" overall on the supervisor evaluation forms.

1a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The data suggests that students are qualified for entry-level positions in ministry.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: No more than 35% will have an unsatisfactory evaluation on any one item.

1b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: 3 students (16% of total) received “unsatisfactory” ratings on at least one item on the supervisor’s evaluation sheet.

1b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: Continue to monitor the results. In 2008-2009, COBR must standardize evaluation forms (as much as possible) and centralize the collection of those forms.

Third Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1c. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: On the basis of an alumni survey, at least 65% of graduates who sought ministry positions will have found them within one year of graduation.

1c. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: In an alumni survey, 100% of those who responded that sought ministry positions reported that they were hired within one year of graduation.

1c. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The data suggests that graduates are prepared for entry-level positions.

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2. Students completing a Youth and Family Ministry major will have an adequate knowledge base for post-baccalaureate studies in Youth and Family Ministry.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: At least 65% of graduates will score above 65% on the Assessment Exam constructed by the College of Bible and Religion faculty and based on core and major requirements.

2a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Seven Youth and Family graduates took the Assessment Exam; average score was 67% (same as 2007). 71% scored above 65% (same as 2007)..

2a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: In 2008-2009 the COBR faculty will continue the process of standardizing course content in core courses to identify more clearly the "knowledge base" in question and insure that knowledge base is taught.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: No more than 35% will fail to answer satisfactorily any given item on the test.

2b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: More than 35% of graduates taking the Assessment Exam answered incorrectly on 35 (out of 75) items (compared to 33 out of 75 in 2007)..

2b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The COBR Assessment Team will analyze these 35 items in particular to determine whether or not these items truly reflect the “knowledge base” we deem necessary for post-baccalaureate studies.

Third Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2c. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: An alumni survey will reveal that at least 65% of graduates who sought admission to post-baccalaureate programs will have been accepted within two years.

2c. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Of the alumni who responded to the survey, 100% of those who applied to graduate school were admitted within two years after graduation.

2c. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The data suggests that graduates are qualified for their post-baccalaureate programs.

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3. Students completing a Youth and Family Ministry major will have confidence in their preparation for ministry.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: At least 65% of graduates who complete the Exit Assessment Questionnaire will respond with either "very effective" or "effective" to the question "How effective was your program of study in preparing you for the ministry you plan to pursue?"

3a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: 77% (down from 82% in 2007 and 91% in 2006) of the graduates who completed the questionnaire (30) said the program was either "very effective" or "somewhat effective" in preparing them for ministry. NOTE: The questionnaires were not tabulated according to major. These results apply to all majors as a whole within COBR.

3a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: Monitor these results longitudinally to watch for changes.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: . No more than 35% will respond with either “somewhat ineffective” or “very ineffective.”

3b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: 10% (compared to 3% in 2007) of graduates who completed the Exit Assessment Questionnaire answered “somewhat ineffective.”
NOTE: The most negative responses relate to extracurricular organizations with COBR (20% said these activities were “somewhat unhelpful,” 57% said they were only “moderately helpful”) and to the extent to which COBR courses address “moral, ethical, and social issues” of our time (10% said their training was “somewhat inadequate,” 37% said it was only “moderately adequate”).

3b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: These findings may suggest that COBR must re-evaluate co-curricular activities sponsored by COBR and press forward with the current curriculum revision process to address contemporary moral, ethical, and social issues.

Third Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3c. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: At least 65% of graduates responding to an alumni survey will agree or strongly agree that they were qualified for their post-graduate experiences in ministry.

3c. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: 75% of the alumni responding to the alumni survey said that they felt well-prepared for their post-graduate experiences.
NOTE: Only eight alumni responded to the survey; two out of eight answered "don't know".

3c. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: The data suggests that graduates have confidence in the preparation for ministry.

Fourth Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3d. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success: No more than 35% will disagree or strongly disagree.

3d. Summary of Assessment Data Collected: Two in eight said “don’t know.”

3d. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program: Not enough participants in the alumni survey to be useful.