Recent Outcomes Assessment

- In 2009/2010 the BIS program looked at senior projects

- Focused on one of 4 program outcomes – Critical/Creative Thinking

- Used AACU VALUE rubric “Critical Thinking”

- Small sample (random sample of 6 from fall 2009/spring 2010)
BIS graduates will demonstrate

Critical and Creative Thinking by communicating in a variety of forms, and by using information from multiple sources to explore new questions, analyze complex issues and make informed decisions.
Students in senior project did not meet the expected level on AACU’s VALUE rubric of Critical Thinking (one of 4 BIS program goals)

Results mirrored the experiences BIS faculty reported in their classes.

Recommendation for program level strategic planning
History of BIS (BGS)

- Student population is adult and overwhelmingly part-time
- BGS degree program began in the mid 70’s and was originally designed for returning adult women who had left formal education
- Assumption was that they would have few or no transfer credits
- Interdisciplinary general education seminars are important part of the degree program
- Interdisciplinary majors
- Senior Capstone project designed to meet student’s individual needs and goals
Students earn the BIS degree in one of four majors – Applied Communication, Business Institutions, Health Services Administration, Human Studies

Courses for the majors are offered in departments other than BIS

Students typically take courses within BIS program (senior seminars) when students are seniors or late juniors

BIS courses primarily taught by adjuncts
Suggested Changes to BIS

BIS Faculty supported changes to program

- Developmental coursework that directly supported BIS program goals (freshman to senior)
- A “beginning” course for transfer students that covers BIS 100 goals at a higher level
- Common set of developmental rubrics for course and for program level assessment
- Common senior project to better assess program outcomes and provide an opportunity for students to reflect on their learning
BIS “Core” Courses

Current

- BIS 100/URI 101B
- General Education Seminars (6cr each)
  - BIS 390 Social Science (S)
  - BIS 391 Natural Science (N)
  - BIS 392 Humanities (L)
- BIS 399 Senior Project
  - Work with faculty mentor
  - Individualized topics and products

Proposed

- Retain:
  - BIS 100/URI 101B
  - BIS 391 (for students without appropriate science transfer credits)
- New
  - BIS 300 (for transfer students)
  - Topics Seminars (3 credits)
    - Sophomore
    - Junior
    - Senior
- Revise
  - BIS 399 Senior Project
    - Reflective Portfolio
    - Common product and set of rubrics
Interdisciplinary Seminars

- Seminars taken during the 30 credit “window” of specific year (sophomore, junior, senior)
- Each level of “topics” seminars will build on outcomes of the previous level.
- Interdisciplinary topics, global in scope, and related in content to the BIS majors
- Common learning outcomes for each course offered at a specific level
- Common developmental rubrics to assess BIS outcomes (used at course and program level)
Students will develop a reflective portfolio, addressing the 4 BIS program outcomes.

Students will begin the development of this portfolio in the BIS 100/300 courses.

Students will include materials from their major courses as well as their BIS courses.

This portfolio will form the basis for the BIS outcomes assessment.
Next Steps

- BIS faculty – develop sample assignments for all levels (BIS 100 through senior level seminar) of Critical/Creative Thinking rubric

- Create developmental rubrics for other BIS program outcomes (global thinking, collaborative thinking, lifelong learning)

- Develop new courses for CAC approval (2012/13)
  - developmental seminars and BIS 300

- Develop procedures for revised BIS 399 implementation
Next Steps (cont)

- Test the Critical/Creative Thinking rubric on this semester’s seminar (Social Science) and on Fall semester seminar (Natural Science)
- Collect data on Critical/Creative Thinking rubric in next offering of BIS 100
- Set up assessment calendar for each BIS outcome as new courses and BIS 399 are offered.
Invaluable Assistance

- Ken Jolicoeur — BIS 100 instructor for over 20 years
- Sandy Jean Hicks, Associate Professor of Education and co-instructor, BIS Social Science Seminar
- Elaine Finan – SLOAA office