

DOCUMENTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO STUDENT LEARNING AND SUCCESS

Building Evidence with Team-Based Assessment in Action Campus Project

Executive Summary

Academic librarians from across North America continue to expand and assessment practices through their participation in the [Association of College and Research Libraries \(ACRL\)](#) three-year program, [Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success](#), in partnership with the [Association of Institutional Research](#) and the [Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities](#), and with funding from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. The project is helping over 200 postsecondary institutions of all types investigate the library's impact on student learning and academic success. By promoting library leadership in campuswide assessment projects, libraries are demonstrating contributions to issues of institutional significance.

Although each campus team carries out an assessment project that is unique to the institution's academic mission and priorities, the findings about different ways that libraries are contributing to students' learning benefit the higher education community as a whole by expanding the body of evidence-based assessment results related to students' academic experiences. In addition, the numerous approaches, methods, and tools that the campus teams use to assess library impact can be replicated in or adapted to a variety of different institutional settings and customized to align with specific campus academic priorities.

Compelling Evidence for Library Contributions to Student Learning and Success

The project findings add support to a growing body of evidence that demonstrates positive contributions of academic libraries to student learning and success in four key areas. The findings about library impact in each of the four areas described below, which come from assessment projects conducted at different types of institutions, are particularly strong because they demonstrate that information literacy contributes to inquiry-based and problem-solving learning, including critical thinking, ethical reasoning, global understanding, and civic engagement.

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Building Evidence for Library Contributions to Students' Academic Success

Additional areas of library impact are also being investigated by AiA campus teams. While these impact areas may

