What was done on assessment this year?

The Human Development and Family Sciences (HDFS) program is an approved Certified Family Life Education undergraduate program by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR). To qualify to be an approved program, the curriculum has to cover NCFRs ten content areas (i.e., families and individuals in societal contexts, internal dynamics of families, human growth and development across the lifespan, human sexuality, interpersonal relationships, family resource management, parent education and guidance, family law and public policy, professional ethics and practice, and family life education methodology). One of our major options is Family and Consumer Sciences Education and the program is accredited by Montana’s Board of Public Education (BPE). In our 2016-2017 evaluation we assessed (1) maintenance of NCFR recognition as CFLE Program and accreditation for teaching program, (2) students’ factual and conceptual knowledge in NCFR’s 10 content areas and (3) application of knowledge in internship/student teaching.

What assessment data were collected and what was learned?

To measure recognition of NCFR and accreditation standards set by both NCFR and BPE were addressed and appropriate documents submitted. Confirmation letters were used to assess meeting this evaluation goal. The Family and Consumer Sciences Education program was accredited Fall 2016 (status through 2022). Standards were met for NCFR in Fall 2016 (a full program review will occur Fall 2017).

To measure students factual and conceptual knowledge all final grades for FCS students from the courses designated as meeting NCFR’s 10 content areas during Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters. Eleven courses met this designation (i.e., EDEC 160, FCS 261, FCS 263, FCS 337, FCS 339, FCS 359, FCS 437, FCS 457, FCS 460, FCS 464, and HTH 220). Final grades were used because the together they account both factual (e.g., exams) and conceptual (e.g., papers, presentations) components of the course. Our performance goal was to have the majority of our students achieve 75% or higher (passing grades in our program) in these courses. Final grades for all HDFS students in these courses were collected and percentages identified. In total, 132 HDFS students were enrolled in these courses and 127 students (96%) received C or higher grades.

Secondly, we assess passing rates for HDFS students in internship and student teaching. To earn a passing grade the student must have acknowledgement of placement supervisor that the student competently applied coursework knowledge in their applied educational or human service setting. In total, 11 out of 11 students successfully completed FCS 495 or EDU 495.

What was learned from the assessment?

We have maintained program credentials from NCFR and Montana’s BPE. Students in our program are successfully gaining factual and conceptual knowledge related to NCFR’s 10
content areas. Students are also successfully applying this information in student teaching and internship placements.

**How did you respond to the assessment results?**

Our assessment goals were met in the 2016-2017 assessment. NCFR will conduct a full program review in November 2017 to maintain our CFLE approved status. In preparation for this we are collecting all the syllabi for the 11 courses we used to assess students’ factual and conceptual knowledge and verifying again that the courses meet NCFR’s 10 content areas. Further, we are seeking student feedback on these courses (online survey) from HDFS alumni who have graduated within the last 4 years.