

2d Faculty Development grant Year 1 – Addressing the Goals

4. In what ways have we enhanced assessment of student learning? How can we apply that to the curriculum?

The purpose of this project was for students to research instructional strategies, design a unit for their student teaching assignment and then assess the learning that occurred in the K-12 classroom. Not only is this best practice, but our accreditation service, NCATE, requires that we assess our students' learning and that they also document the learning that takes place from their instruction in the field.

This project was the perfect performance assessment. It evaluated our students' knowledge and skills in a real world context. In that regard it emphasized doing, it took place over an extended period of time, and it allowed Augustana students to reflect on their own performance. In this endeavor they conducted pre and post-tests to determine the progress made by each student. Each pre-service teacher worked with a different area of the curriculum and at different grade levels: middle school math, high school science, and elementary science.

The process and the results they gathered enable us to assess our education program. We can now use the data they collected to examine what and how we deliver content in our classrooms.

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