Working Across University Divisions
An Action Research Approach to Student Success

Janet S. Oh & Danette Saylor
Expected Learning Outcomes

Participants will:

- be able to explain the importance of cross-division collaboration and communication in higher education
- demonstrate knowledge of the principles of action research
- practice applying action research principles to student success work
- develop a plan of action for their own institutions
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@SheroPrez
### Action Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
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<td>&quot;...a collaborative approach to inquiry or investigation that provides people with the means to take systematic action to resolve specific problems”</td>
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<td>Stringer, 1999, p. 17</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Routine (recycling)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOOK: gather information, define, describe, frame</td>
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<tr>
<td>THINK: explore, analyze, interpret, explain</td>
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<td>ACT: communicate, plan, implement, evaluate</td>
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<th>Working Principles</th>
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<td>Relationships</td>
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<td>Communication</td>
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<td>Participation</td>
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<td>Inclusion</td>
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LOOK
THINK
ACT

Stringer, 1999
Research in Action for Student Success (RASS; Oh & Saylor)
Example 1: Impact of Rec Center
Example 2: Impact of Police Presence in Residence Halls
Identify stakeholding groups
Gather information: interviewing, participating, meeting, reading

Frame the questions
Consider the evidence
Consider the interpretations, recommendations

Reflect
Communicate findings, interpretations, recommendations

Plan, implement, improve
Formative evaluation

CONNECT
FRAME
IMPLEMENT

Goals:
- Understanding
- Clarity
- Insight

Goals:
- Extend understanding
- Extend clarity
- Identify priorities

Goals:
- Share understanding
- Prioritize work
- Celebrate achievements

Research in Action for Student Success (RASS; Oh & Saylor)
Send yourself a reminder:

What is one action you will take as soon as you return to campus?
RASS IN ACTION

- Residence Hall Pilot Program Delivered Positive Outcomes
- Resulted in Cabinet Level Conversation on Strategies for Sustainability
- Ending Result with Strong Support from Senior Leadership, and Continuing for the Next Year