



## SoTL Grant Closure Report (2016 – 2017)

### I. Basic Information

Title of Project: Common Hour Assessment Project:

#### Investigator(s) Information

##### **Principal Investigator:**

Name: Antonieta S. Fitzpatrick  
College: Division of Student Affairs  
Department: New Student & Family Engagement  
Phone Number: 773.325.2273  
Email Address: afitzpa9@depaul.edu

### II. Project Update

#### Research Question

To what extent are students demonstrating learning upon completion of Common Hour?

#### Progress Report

In the last academic year, the assessment project was completed and the Common Hour curriculum has been revised. This assessment project was an extension of New Student & Family Engagement's assessment project from last year with a continued focus on student learning related to the Common Hour within the Chicago Quarter program. Building on the assessment tool developed for the 2015 assessment project, our office rolled out an identical pre-and post-quarter test to all first-year students enrolled in fall 2016. From the results of the pre-quarter test, we learned that students had prior knowledge regarding DePaul's mission, financial wellness, and personal safety & consent before Common Hour. By comparing the pre-quarter and post-quarter test results, we found that students acquired new knowledge regarding academic success, diversity & social justice, Campus Connect and course registration after Common Hour. We used the assessment results to inform the revision of the 2017 Common Hour curriculum.

Staff in New Student & Family Engagement led the curriculum revision process during the fall, winter, and spring quarters of the 2016-2017 academic year. The assessment project was one component of the process and results of the project were shared on ongoing basis with a core group

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campus partners as well as during trainings with students, staff, and faculty who participate in the Chicago Quarter program.

### Impact

As outlined above, the results of our assessment project impacted the revision of the Common Hour curriculum for this fall quarter which impacts all of our new students (approx. 2500 new students) this fall. We will not fully understand the impact on learning or retention until much later, but are currently exploring plans for an assessment of the new curriculum.

### Dissemination

The results of the project were disseminated in multiple ways. First, a core group campus partners came together on a monthly basis and results of the project were shared as the data was analyzed. Second, the data was presented to the Chicago Quarter Advisory Group as well as to Chicago Quarter faculty at the Annual Best Practices Conference. A snap shot of the data and the new curriculum was also share to all Chicago Quarter Mentors and Staff Professionals during this past spring quarter.

We are currently exploring options for sharing the project outside of DePaul.

## III. Expense Report

| <b>Expenditure</b>                | <b>Amount Requested</b> | <b>Amount Spent</b> | <b>Notes</b>  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Assessment Intern PT Hourly Wages | \$2500                  | \$2500              | Chen Kang, a graduate student from the University of Chicago, was hired during the fall of 2016 and worked until the spring of 2017. The grant funds were used to supplement NSFED departmental funds to cover the hourly wages for the year. |
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|                                   |                         |                     |   |
|                                   |                         |                     |   |
|                                   |                         |                     |   |
|                                   | <b>Total</b>            | <b>Total</b>        |   |
|                                   | \$2500                  | \$2500              |   |