

Section Header	Description
Institution Name	<i>Morton College</i>
Institution Characteristics	<p><i>Public Community College,</i></p> <p><i>FTE enrollment in Fall 2018 was 2,402.</i></p> <p><i>4 Full time library staff plus Director</i></p>
CARLI Counts Participant Name + Job Title	<i>Thomas Mantzakides, Circulation Librarian</i>
Project Name/Title	<i>Assessing embedded librarianship for student success at a Community College.</i>
Single Sentence Abstract	<i>Morton College library will assess its Embedded Librarian program by using survey/testing methods to discover if library participation has led to improvement in student's graded work.</i>
Motivation(s) for Project	<p>Why was this project important to undertake? What is the "so what" for the project? Context from the literature?</p> <p><i>Through participation in CARLI Counts, we hope to use the data we collect from instruction sessions, reference questions, circulation transactions and web engagement to make an effective case for the ongoing impact we have on our community.</i></p> <p><i>By utilizing data in a way that is easy to understand, we will provide compelling evidence in reports and/or presentations to our stakeholders showing that library services and collections provide an invaluable foundation to the College's mission in achieving student success.</i></p>
Partners and Stakeholders	<p>List and describe roles: e.g., faculty, institutional research, assessment committee</p> <p><i>The director of the Physical Therapist Assistant (PHT) department who was initially involved with the projected embedded program retired at the end of the Spring 2019 semester. An interim director subsequently determined that an embedded librarian program would work</i></p>

	<p><i>better in the Spring 2020 program, thus delaying the project initially planned for the Fall 2019 semester.</i></p> <p><i>A meeting with the Dean of Adult and Career Technical Education at Morton College in July 2019 assured me that IRB approval would not be required as long as no personally identifying information was collected during the course of the project. I sent an e-mail on November 20th to set up a meeting with the newly appointed Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences (and active member of the College’s Assessment Committee) however, a response was not received and I have not followed up yet.</i></p> <p><i>I met with the instructor of the PHT 222 course for the Spring 2020 semester on December 18, 2019 to discuss possible ways to enhance student engagement with me and library resource in the upcoming semester. An instruction session is scheduled for January 17, 2020.</i></p>
<p>Inquiry Question</p>	<p><i>What is the impact of the Library’s embedded Librarian on student learning/success as measured by grades on assignments and final grades?</i></p>
<p>Study Participants/Population</p>	<p><i>The participants in the study will be students enrolled in the PHT 222 class (“Seminar in Health Career Lit.) for the Spring 2020 semester. This course is intended for students nearing completion of the program. Successful completion of 3 other 200 level courses and consent of the PTA Director are prerequisites for enrolling in the course.</i></p> <p><i>According to course description:</i></p> <p><i>“This course is designed to guide the student through the process of finding and using evidence to support best practice. Students will learn how to formulate a research question and how to use that question to search the</i></p>

	<i>professional literature for relevant evidence...This is a hybrid course with classroom and online instruction."</i>
Method(s) of Data Collection and Analysis	<p>Describe survey, interviews, web logs, observations, service transaction logging, etc. and how data was analyzed. Specific tools and data analysis may be included here or in appendices.</p> <p><i>For the future project, we will use questions a staff member has developed and posted in the Project Outcome toolkit. Since I will be embedded online in the Blackboard course page, I plan on posting weekly tips on use of library resources, and may prompt students to engage with the library by posting questions whose correct responses may earn students extra credit. This will give me the opportunity to observe and collect data on how responsive students are to my virtual presence. An interview with the faculty member is being considered.</i></p>
Findings	<p>What was learned through the project?</p> <p><i>This is still to be determined pending conclusion of the Spring 2020 semester.</i></p>
Use of Findings	<p>How are the findings being applied locally?</p> <p><i>I hope that the findings will be shared with the College's assessment committee so it can provide feedback on how to improve results for future projects. I will also contact the campus' Public Relations Department to see if they would like to issue a press release about the project to share with the campus community, thus drawing potential collaborators for future projects.</i></p>
Next Steps and Other Results	<p>What will you do next? Were there any other impacts of participating in CARLI Counts?</p>

	<p><i>The establishment and future assessment of this project may be referred to visitors of the Higher Learning Commission's accreditation team who will be evaluating the College in March. The visit is particularly important as the College's status is currently "Accredited - on notice" with one of the criteria that the college meets - but with concerns – the following:</i></p> <p><i>"the institution's governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the institution to fulfill its mission."</i></p> <p><i>The success of future collaborative processes between the PTA program and the Library will help make the case for removing the "On Notice" status.</i></p> <p><i>The College will be sending another librarian to take part in the 2nd Cohort of CARLI Counts. With two librarians trained and familiar with the same tools in assessing student success, it is hoped that both individuals will be able to collaborate and lend support to one another while discussing the challenges associated with assessing student success.</i></p>
Additional Reflections	<p>Is there additional context that would help others make sense of the project and/or be able to replicate it? Issues or challenges that were overcome? Resources/budget needed to carry out the study?</p> <p><i>The main issues involved finding time to devote to the project. Being at the front desk and dealing with the usual interruptions (reference questions, making IDs) on top of the normal tasks of keeping tab of circulating materials, was definitely a challenge. Student assistant vacancies and the departure of a key staff member are the challenges faced thus far as the new semester gets underway. Also, while there may be an assessment committee at the College, an assessment culture has not yet permeated the library.</i></p>

	<p><i>Future iterations of CARLI counts may want to consider how to involve other, non-library campus stakeholders so that there is a better understanding, and more buy-in, from campus partners.</i></p> <p><i>Finally, I wonder if a simultaneous online course in instruction/research methods should be offered to CARLI Counts participants. While this may not be feasible (for time/money/personnel reasons), this would provide a more solid foundation for participants to grasp all the details for an effective assessment project.</i></p>
Timeline	<p>Identify major phases of the project and highlight key moments or milestones.</p> <p><i>To be determined...</i></p>
Bibliography/Works Cited	<p>Books to be consulted in the near future:</p> <p>Brown, Karen, et al. <i>Shaping the Campus Conversation on Student Learning and Experience: Activating the Results of Assessment in Action</i>. Association of College & Research Libraries, 2018.</p> <p>Ferguson, Jennifer S. <i>Using Authentic Assessment in Information Literacy Programs: Tools, Techniques, and Strategies</i>. Rowman Et Littlefield, 2018.</p>
Appendices	<p>As needed. Might be visualizations of the data, survey instruments, etc.</p>

Note: Report will be submitted as a single PDF.