



Did you know that 40% of the points available for 2017-18 Institutional Effectiveness plan reviews are based on data in Column Four of the Improvement Plan? Column Four is to list two items:

- Recommendation statement/action plan for improvement in 2018-19 based on results
- Follow-up statement describing how 2016-17 recommendations were implemented, and whether the steps made a difference in the results this year. The statement should be posted under the previous year's recommendation in Improve.

Recommendations like “*Criterion met, no need to improve*” or “*Continue to monitor*” are not recommendations or improvement actions. No points are awarded if no improvement actions are developed after the first year of an outcome.

Examples of improvement actions include curricular changes, academic support, professional development, assessment improvements, raising the criterion and choosing a new outcome.

Why is Column Four important?

Column Four data is how UNT will document the improvement actions of your department or program tied to outcomes for SACSCOC. SACSCOC (Comprehensive Standards 7.3 and 8.2) expects UNT to provide evidence that areas seek improvement based on analysis of the results in student learning outcomes of academic programs, general education, academic and student services and administrative effectiveness. Column Four details the improvement actions made at the program and department level.

Steps to improve reporting of improvement actions and peer review scores in Column Four:

Step 1 Reflect on data provided in Column Four and compare to the expectations for documenting improvement actions planned/implemented based on analysis of outcomes.

Step 2 Update Column Four Part One (Recommended Improvement Actions):

To enter/edit a recommendation for improvement, go to the 2017-18 results already entered for the particular outcome. Click on the green (+) to enter a recommendation to be implemented in 2018-19.

How to Improve Data in Column Four - Improvement Actions

The screenshot shows the Nuventive Improve interface for a 'UNT Sample - Degree Program Academic Assessment'. The left sidebar has a 'Results' tab highlighted with a red circle. The main content area shows a 'Sample Outcome #1' with a 'Course Assignment/Project' section circled in red. Below this, there is a 'Recommendations' section with a red arrow pointing to it. The 'Recommendation' text reads: 'THIS IS MY RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION PLAN FOR IMPROVING IN 2018-19 BASED ON THE 2017-18 RESULTS ANALYZED. (09/11/2018)'. Below that is a 'Follow-Up' section with the text: 'THIS IS WHERE YOU STATE HOW THE 2017-18 RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENT ACTION WAS IMPLEMENTED DURING 2018-19 AND IF THE ACTION MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS YEAR'S RESULTS. THIS IS ENTERED ONE YEAR LATER IN 2019. (09/11/2019)'. A red arrow points from the 'Recommendations' section down to the text below.

Your recommendations (Column 4) should answer these questions:

- How are you going to use the results to continue to improve or enhance services/learning?

Avoid "Continue to monitor" or "no recommendations needed" statements.

Was your criterion not met? Answer:

- What are you going to do to make improvements to address areas in which the criteria was not met?
- What is your plan of action?

Action plans for improvement may sometimes be substantial curriculum changes, but can also include changing a textbook, adding/changing assignments, implementing new materials/technology, pedagogy modifications or additional faculty/student support, etc. – anything that aligns with data collected.

Was your criterion met? Answer:

- What can you do to continue to raise standards and/or improve? Remember this IE plan needs to demonstrate evidence of seeking improvement, and not that your students can achieve a minimum threshold to satisfy minimal compliance.
- Does this plan document your efforts to seek improvement annually?
- Have you set minimal thresholds instead of aspirational goals? Can you defend your threshold or goal for success at a particular level? There should always be a need for improvement, even if that is revision of targets and/or assessment methods.
- If the findings consistently suggest that no improvement is needed, then programs should consider examining a more useful outcome that demonstrates continuous improvement, or setting more demanding target levels for existing methods of measurement.

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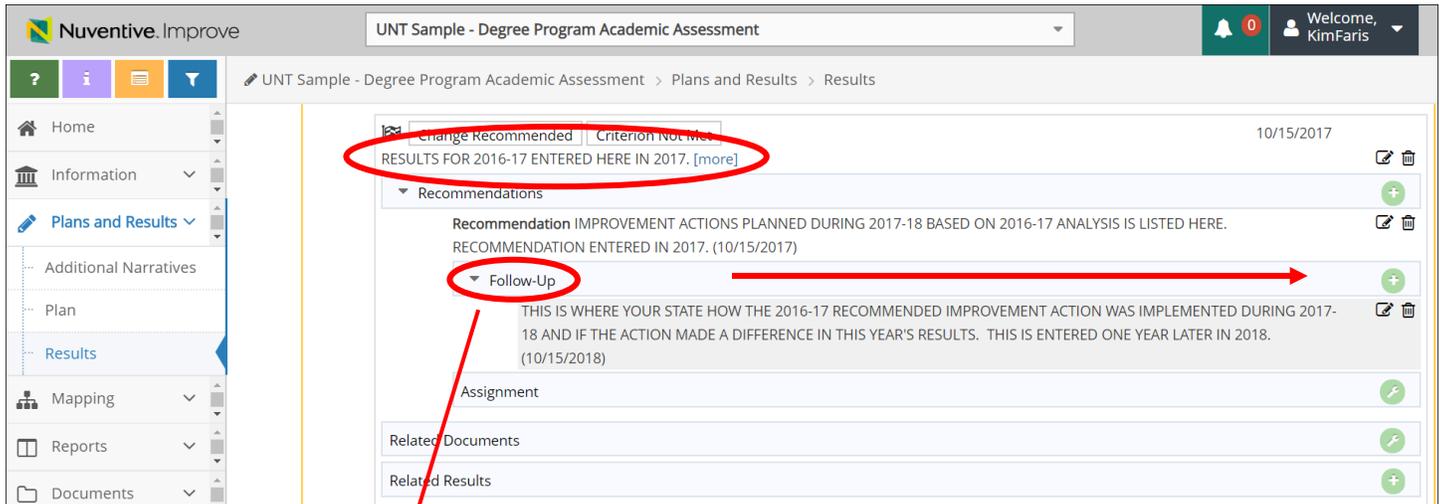
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How to Improve Data in Column Four - Improvement Actions

Step 3 Update Column Four Part Two (Follow-Up):

To enter/edit a follow-up (due October 2018), go to the prior year's (2016-17) results/recommendations already entered for the particular outcome. Click on the green (+) to enter a follow-up statement describing the improvement actions implemented during 2017-18 based on recommendations made in 2017.



Your Follow-Up Statement (Column 4) should answer these questions:

- How were last year's recommendations implemented?
- If they were not implemented, was there an alternate improvement made?
- Did the action make a difference in this year's results?

How to Improve Data in Column Four - Improvement Actions

Running the Four-Column Improvement Report will reveal the data entered in Step 2 and Step 3:

Step 2

Expected Outcomes	Assessment Methods	Results	Recommendations
<p>Sample Outcome #1 - The student will perform a regression analysis at proficiency level of 80% from a course assignment in Stats 201.</p> <p>Outcome Status: Active</p> <p>Outcome Type: Student Learning Outcome</p> <p>Start Date: 09/01/2008</p>	<p>Course Assignment/Project - Students are evaluated from performance in 4 lab settings for regression analysis. Each lab is worth 25 points.</p> <p>Criterion: 80% of Students achieve a minimum of 80% of the points.</p> <p>Related Documents: Sample Program Degree Grade Rubric.docx ComindwARE</p>	<p>Change Status: Change Made</p> <p>Result Type: Criterion Met</p> <p>RESULTS FOR 2017-18. STATE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ASSESSED, AND WHETHER THE RESULTS MET YOUR EXPECTATIONS/CRITERION FOR SUCCESS. COMPARE THE RESULTS TO ANY PREVIOUS ASSESSMENTS AND DESCRIBE HOW YOUR LAST IMPROVEMENTS IMPACTED THE RESULTS. (09/11/2018)</p> <p>Academic Cycle: 2017 - 2018</p> <hr/> <p>Change Status: Change Recommended</p> <p>Result Type: Criterion Not Met</p> <p>RESULTS FOR 2016-17 ENTERED HERE IN 2017. (10/15/2017)</p> <p>Academic Cycle: 2016 - 2017</p>	<p>Recommendation: THIS IS MY RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION PLAN FOR IMPROVING IN 2018-19 BASED ON THE 2017-18 RESULTS ANALYZED. (09/11/2018)</p> <p>Follow-Up: THIS IS WHERE YOUR STATE HOW THE 2017-18 RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENT ACTION WAS IMPLEMENTED DURING 2018-19 AND IF THE ACTION MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS YEAR'S RESULTS. THIS IS ENTERED ONE YEAR LATER IN 2019. (09/11/2019)</p> <hr/> <p>Recommendation: IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS PLANNED DURING 2017-18 BASED ON 2016-17 ANALYSIS IS LISTED HERE. RECOMMENDATION ENTERED IN 2017. (10/15/2017)</p> <p>Follow-Up: THIS IS WHERE YOUR STATE HOW THE 2016-17 RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENT</p>
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Step 3

Expected Outcomes	Assessment Methods	Results	Recommendations
			<p>ACTION WAS IMPLEMENTED DURING 2017-18 AND IF THE ACTION MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS YEAR'S RESULTS. THIS IS ENTERED ONE YEAR LATER IN 2018. (10/15/2018)</p>