



CASSL Survey Results

During spring 2009, the CRC Research Office implemented a web-based survey to assess CASSL's PSLO#4, which is "As a result of CASSL activities CRC staff will be able to develop, use and assess effective teaching methodologies (including SLOs). All faculty who had participated in a CASSL activity were invited to participate via email. The survey was designed to elicit their responses to the various programs and services that the CASSL has provided in support of the SLO. 26 full and part-time faculty participated in the survey.

The following table summarizes the respondent's participation rates in the different CASSL activities.

CASSL Activity	Percent of respondents who participated
Annual August CASSL Colloquium	61.0%
End of Semester Institutes	23.1%
Nine-week seminar series	30.8%
Email discussion group	73.1%
Innovation grants	19.2%
Brown-bag dialogues	30.8%
SLO assistance	42.3%

The following table summarizes the perceived benefits of the CASSL programs and services.

Question	Not at all helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Uncertain	Quite Helpful	Extremely Helpful	N/A
Learn about effective teaching methodologies	8.3%	20.8%	0%	41.7%	25.0%	4.2%
Develop teaching methodologies new to you	20.8%	25.0%	0%	41.7%	8.3%	4.2%
Implement effective teaching methodologies	13.0%	30.4%	4.3%	43.5%	4.3%	4.3%
Assess the effectiveness of your teaching	16.0%	20.0%	4.0%	40.0%	20.0%	0%
Assess student learning	8.0%	20.0%	4.0%	44.0%	24.0%	0%

In general, approximately 80% of the respondents found that the CASSL programs and services were useful. The most useful activities focused on teaching methodologies and student learning.

Although the total number of respondents was small, it appears that

- faculty who participated in the end-of-semester Institutes and the CASSL Innovation Grants tended to have slightly higher overall satisfaction of the helpfulness of the CASSL activities compared to participants of the other activities.
- in general, higher levels of participation in CASSL activities corresponded with higher levels of satisfaction.

On the web-based survey, there was a place where faculty could record their comments. Many of the comments affirmed the value of CASSL. However, one respondent did not perceive any impact from participating, and one respondent wanted more inclusion of topics and methods that were relevant to distance education.

- "I have participated in nearly all of the activities CASSL offers. The work I am currently doing (related to my innovation grant) is making me a much more focused, prepared, and responsive instructor in both face-to-face and online settings. I especially enjoyed the nine-week session and the opportunity to interact with colleagues across the campus. If I had the time to invest, I would do this every semester."*
- "I really liked the 9-week seminar series. I learned a huge amount about new teaching methods and how to assess learning, and it was a good opportunity to interact with CRC faculty from a wide range of disciplines. I hope there will be more of these seminars in the future!"*
- "I think the CASSL is a great resource for us. I'm just sad that I don't have more time to participate in the truly excellent presentations. I also hope that in these distressing economic times that this is a resource that can continue and be supported by the college and academic senate. Thank you."*
- "Keep those thought provoking discussion group emails coming. "*
- "CASSL hasn't really had much of an impact on any aspect of my teaching or planning at CRC."*
- "I appreciate the resources CASSL has made available. In particular, CASSL has been very helpful in regard to SLOs. Because of other workload demands, I have not been very available to participate in CASSL activities and so cannot comment to a great extent on their usefulness."*
- "Most of what I participated in was not specifically about teaching, as I am a "non-instructional" faculty member. I appreciate the opportunity through CASSL to have dialogue with my faculty colleagues. Please keep this program!"*
- "Many geared for face-to-face teaching and few related to distance ed/online teaching and assessment."*
- "It seems that folks who use CASSL have a very different opinion of it than those who don't. I know my department chair thinks CASSL is only about SLOs. The faculty in my department who have been to CASSL events have been very impressed with them, and have put many of the things we have learned into use. Most importantly, it gives us a reason and motivation to talk about what works and doesn't work in the classroom."*
- "Some strategies were familiar before taking the CASSL workshops, and so the events affirmed what I was already doing. For me, it was most valuable to meet a variety of colleagues, exchange ideas, and know I could contact them again if I have questions."*