Spring 2012 SAILS assessment results

257 first year students completed the assessment, which was a post-test of their Information Literacy skills and knowledge after receiving instruction at Hamline. This was our fourth administration of the Project SAILS individual test scores version.

The assessment was administered in the early April, spring semester 2012.

Only 69 students scored at 70% or higher, which is considered proficient for first year students. A score of 85% or greater is considered mastery.

237 out of 257 students (92%) indicated that they had used library resources this academic year to complete an assignment. This compares to 102 positive responses out of 122 testers (84%) in spring 2011.

When asked, “How many of your Hamline classes this academic year included a session with a librarian in a computer lab?” Their responses were:

Zero classes: 13 responses
One class: 80 responses
Two classes: 118 responses
Three classes: 33 responses
Four or more classes: 13 responses

Our goal was for all first year students to have a minimum of two library sessions during their first year at Hamline. These were scheduled in First Year Seminar and English 1110. Additional sessions may have occurred in subject coursework.

The average number of questions answered correctly was 32/55. The average score was 59%. The median score was 62 and the mode was 67. All of these scores are an improvement over the fall 2011 pre-test. Two questions tied for the lowest scoring questions with a mean score of 19%. They were Standard 5, question item #554 and Standard 2, question item #577. The highest scoring question with a mean score of 88% was Standard 2, question Item #539.

The 55 questions on the SAILS test measured four different information literacy standards developed by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL).

ACRL Standard #1:
Determines the nature and extent of information needed. (13 questions on SAILS)

The mean score of Hamline first year testers in spring 2012 for this standard was 64%

ACRL Standard #2:
Accesses needed information effectively and efficiently. (27 questions on SAILS)

The mean score of Hamline first year testers in spring 2012 for this standard was 56%

ACRL Standard #3:
Evaluates information and its sources critically and incorporates selected information into his or her knowledge base and value system. (7 questions on SAILS)

The mean score of Hamline first year testers in spring 2012 for this standard was 65%

ACRL Standard #5:
Understands many of the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information and
accesses and uses information ethically and legally. (8 questions on SAILS)

The mean score of Hamline first year testers in spring 2012 for this standard was 54%

A $100 book store gift certificate was given away to 1 winner, whose name was drawn from the pool of testers who completed the test.

Test results were sent via email to students' Hamline email accounts in May 2012.

Bush Library plans to administer the individual test scores version of Project SAILS to a new incoming class of first year students as a pre-test in September 2012 and a post-test in spring 2013.