Experiential Learning (EL) program outcomes can be measured by the number of students engaged, the quality of the experiences and connections made, skills students develop, learning outcomes, conversion rates for hires (a major benchmark our employers use), sustainability of partnerships, retention/graduation/long-term career success, and institutional recognition:

- Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement, 2008

92% of all traditional students graduated last year with university-sanctioned experiential learning/internship experience.

Students with experiential learning and volunteer experience were 4% more likely or very likely to choose UNC Charlotte if starting over again versus those who did not participate.

Students with experiential learning/volunteer experience reported satisfaction with their current position at a 5% higher rate versus those who did not participate. 80% of those with experience reported their current position has relatedness to their major versus 62.5% of those without.

Students with experiential learning/internships had a 7% higher employment rate and students with volunteer experience had an 8% higher employment rate compared to those without experience.

UNC Charlotte offered 594 experiential learning courses in 2009-2010.

University Career Center EL program participants indicated they were more likely to stay in school at a rate of 4.68 on a scale of 1 to 5 (strongly agree) as a result of their experience. They rated their overall experience at 4.69 and indicated that as a result of participating in the program, they felt more motivated to take actions in career planning (4.71) and that their career goals have been clarified (4.62).

Employers rated students’ co-op and 49ership performance overall at a 4.57 level and 100% would recommend their intern for a position with the organization if it were available.

Students who participated in any experiential learning programs on average earned $7,000 more a year in their first job, obtained the job more quickly, and reported higher satisfaction with the job.

Over the past 10 years employer evaluation feedback indicated our students made significant improvements in all professional skill areas including:

- Education and academic preparedness
- Communication skills
- Technical computer skills
- Career direction and goals
- Initiative

May 2010 grad follow-up study: Over 45% of respondents provided internship leads for current students.