Methodology

Assessment Measures

A portfolio methodology was used to evaluate student attainment of the general education goals. The portfolios contained the following for each student:

- Faculty ratings of attainment of the six goals of general education goals based on individual interviews of students by teams of three faculty members,

- Student self-assessment in which students rated their level of attainment on the six goals of general education.

- Goal Attainment Survey, completed by the students in which they rated the importance of 35 institutional goals and KU’s success in meeting those goals,

- An academic transcript of course work without grades

Each interview was 45-minutes long and students were paid $30 for their participation. Interview questions were written to cover specific goals, with multiple questions for each one. The questions were designed to elicit conversation, analysis, and argument from students to allow the interviewers to ascertain the students’ level of goal attainment. To achieve standardization of the interviews, all the interview teams selected from among the same set of questions. Faculty teams typically interviewed three students per night and faculty members served from one to four nights.

Following the interview, the faculty individually rated the students’ level of attainment on each of the six Goals of General Education according to a five point rating scale:

1-little or no attainment  2-below average attainment  3-average attainment  4-above average attainment  5-outstanding attainment.