Appendix J: UCAT Program Assessment Database

In the text of the self-study and in an earlier appendix (I), we describe UCAT’s seven major goals (for our staff, our teachers, our students, and the university), and the 49 observable and measurable objectives for each. After articulating UCAT goals and objectives, we identified 234 pre-existing data sets that could potentially provide supporting evidence that we have successfully attained those goals and objectives. We built a Filemaker database to track alignment among the goals, objectives, data, and conclusions. The entire staff worked together to gather and enter the supporting data into the database, meeting weekly to report on progress and ask one another clarifying questions.

Figure 1 shows a view of the Goal and Objective alignment screen. All aligned objectives, corresponding sources of data (assessment tools), and final conclusions are on this screen.
Figure 2 shows all data sets regarding a single objective organized across the 7 levels of influence.

Figure 2: UCAT Program Assessment database: All data points for an objective

Figure 3 is the screen for each individual data set. A data set can be aligned to numerous objectives, each having their own unique entry in the database. Each entry was coded for its data source, UCAT service category, specific UCAT program in that service category, difficulty level in gathering and analyzing this data, and the level of influence with which it corresponds. UCAT staff then determined its general effectiveness in providing supporting evidence that the aligned objective was attained, which was originally coded under “Effectiveness” as convincing, almost convincing, or not convincing but was later replaced with supporting, almost supporting, or not supporting evidence.
Figure 3: UCAT Program Assessment database: Single data point for an objective

See Chapter 5 for further explanation of the collaborative process we engaged in to identify the goals and objectives, the range and scope of data we gathered regarding outcomes, and our analysis of the data.