

In 2013-2014, the college focused its assessment efforts on the ILOs "graduates of Westmont College will *demonstrate literacy in biblical and orthodox Christian faith* (Christian understanding) and *demonstrate faithfulness in Christian service* (Christian practices and affections)" which are well aligned with the GE SLO that reads "Westmont students

### **Indirect Assessment: Local Survey**

#### **Methods and tools**

In April 2013, Westmont administered Local Instant Survey focused on all three components of CUPA at the assessment event, where graduating seniors had the opportunity to respond to survey questions. Of the 305 graduating seniors, 76 participated, for a 25% response rate. Following the survey, 25 of these seniors attended one of five focus groups hosted by faculty or Student Life staff. They wrote brief responses to any one of several theological questions and then answered several questions orally. This was not a random selection of students, but a representative sample from our senior class. All recruitment efforts were targeted towards them specifically. The survey and focus group results were assessed by the Proficiency Evaluation rubric.

### **Indirect Assessment: Externally Normed Survey**

#### **Methods and tools**

In 2012-2013, Christian Life Survey for Scripture Engagement was selected by Westmont to assess student learning in relation to the Christian Practices/Affections outcome. Of our population size of 1262, 502 students participated from across the classes of 2013 for a 40% response rate. The Christian Life survey results were discussed and compared to the Local Instant Survey results.

#### **Results**

1. The local survey results suggest that students demonstrated low to middling overall biblical literacy. Students are somewhat familiar with Christian scripture, especially those bits that circulate most widely in churches and popular cultural consciousness. Some students attain higher biblical proficiency; however, there is a widespread and apparently well-founded sense that students are much less biblically literate than evangelicals were two generations or even one generation ago.
2. The survey results also suggest that our students demonstrated low to middling hermeneutical and theological proficiency, again concentrated on those theological claims and biblical interpretations that are most prominent in evangelical and wider culture. Some students attain a much higher level of sophistication, while at the other



