

Program Evaluation - Draft

One of the major goals of the UNAVCO is to build a sustainable Education and Outreach program with significant impact. Evaluation is an essential method of steering this program in the right direction. Both of our major projects (RESESS and PBO Nucleus) have measurable goals with awarded funds to pay for a formal external evaluation plan. This type of evaluation is a well established process within the educational field and is the most effective way to measure the quality of our program. In this type of evaluation, UNAVCO can see whether it is making a real impact on our audiences and stakeholders.

A second form of evaluation is continuous assessment of our workplan. The 1-2 year workplan lays out specific activities and is analyzed to see if we have achieved our objectives. This is used to assess the viability of our plan, the ability of the staff to achieve short to medium termed goals, to report to the Education and Standing Committee and the UNAVCO Board of Directors on our progress, and to make sure the plans are revised with the latest information and assessments.

Finally, we have established metrics and planned quantitative outcomes for some of the programs and activities. These are shown in the following tables and figures. The purpose of this type of metrics is to prudently measure and assess the growing impact of the UNAVCO Education and Outreach Program within the educational and scientific landscape. The following figures show existing and projected figures.