

## MDA 2016 Assessment Report

### Program Numbers

1. Demand for the MDA continues to be high. In Fall 2015, a cohort of 31 was accepted for the MDA, which was triple the average cohort size of the previous 3 years. In Fall 2016, a cohort of 25 began the MDA. A TA continues to support the MDA courses for the second year and is funded from tuition generated by the increased student numbers.
2. Completion rates and time frame continues to be excellent. For cohorts that began in 2012, 2013 & 2014, there were a total of 32 students with:
  - a. 59% completing within 1 year
  - b. 94% completing within 2 year
  - c. 100% completing within 2.7 years

For the cohort that began Fall 2015, 55% of the cohort completed within 1 year. The remaining students are continuing and all anticipate graduation under the 2-year mark.

### Program Quality

1. IDEA ratings remain high and feedback from these evaluations and student surveys continue to be used to improve coursework. For example, changes have been made to the management project proposal review process, to enhance feedback for each student from peers and mentors.
2. In-depth review of course materials by an USU NDFS management instructor and an MDA graduate was undertaken in the past year. This resulted in addition of new topics, such as negotiation and implicit bias which were incorporated into the core MDA course NDFS 6780 and additional research instruction in NDFS 6900.
3. In the coming year, we plan to survey MDA program graduates who are now at numbers that will provide valid survey data. Target areas for the survey include feedback on program objectives, course content and graduates' career progression since completing the MDA.