The Assessment & Improvement Cycle

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Session Outcomes

After this session, attendees will be able to:

• Describe the assessment and improvement cycle

• Interpret how their department’s assessment and data collection fits within the assessment and improvement cycle

• Explain the significance of program improvement for accreditation
Assessment & Improvement Cycle

Foundational Documents (mission, goals, strategic plan)

Establish Criteria for Success (outcomes)

Provide Programs and Services

Determine Effectiveness

Use Results for Improvement
Assessment & Improvement Cycle

- Foundational Documents (mission, goals, strategic plan)
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- Determine Effectiveness
- Provide Programs and Services
- Use Results for Improvement
Core of Our Work

Student-centered
Focused on success
Puts theory and research into practice
Foundational Documents

Why your department exists and what it is *uniquely* positioned to achieve

- Mission
- Vision
- Motivators/Values
- Goals
- Strategic Plan
Criteria for Success

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Determine Effectiveness

Use Results for Improvement

Objectives: What we will achieve

Outcomes: What participants will be able to do as a result

Blooms Taxonomy is the foundation to educational outcomes
Programs and Services

Based on the established SLOs

Utilize research-based experiences

Consider resources and Return on Investment (ROI)
Effectiveness

Assess your program/service

Select the best fitting tool(s) - be creative!

The information you receive is only as good as the questions you ask. Take time to think through your assessment.
Use Results for Improvement

What did you learn? What needs to change?

Consider:
- Impact
- Scalability
- Resources
- Purpose

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Determine Effectiveness
Use Results for Improvement
Assessment & Improvement Cycle

1. Foundational Documents (mission, goals, strategic plan)
2. Establish Criteria for Success (outcomes)
3. Provide Programs and Services
4. Use Results for Improvement
5. Determine Effectiveness

Use Results for Improvement → Determine Effectiveness → Provide Programs and Services → Establish Criteria for Success (outcomes) → Foundational Documents (mission, goals, strategic plan) → Use Results for Improvement
Assessment & Improvement Cycle

Foundational Documents (mission, goals, strategic plan)

Establish Criteria for Success (outcomes)

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Determine Effectiveness

Use Results for Improvement
Student Affairs & Accreditation

Why Improvement is Significant
Accreditation

• Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
• 10 year reaffirmation process
• Accreditation means:
  • Federal aid for students
  • Federal grant funding for researchers
  • General recognition level of quality
Accreditation

• Section 1: The Principle of Integrity
• Section 2: Mission
• Section 3: Basic Eligibility Standards
• Section 4: Governing Board
• Section 5: Administration and Organization
• Section 6: Faculty
• Section 7: Institutional Planning and Effectiveness
• Section 8: Student Achievement
• Section 9: Educational Program Structure and Content
• Section 10: Educational Policies, Procedures, and Practices
• Section 11: Library and Learning/Information Resources
• Section 12: Academic and Student Support Services
• Section 13: Financial and Physical Resources
• Section 14: Transparency and Institutional Representation
Section 8. Student Achievement

8.2.c Student Outcomes: Academic and Student Services

The institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of the results for academic and student services that support student success.
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