

Department of Technology Assessment of Learning Outcomes -- June 2002

The Department of Technology has five undergraduate sequences/programs and two graduate sequences. As mandated, student learning outcomes for each program were submitted to the Provost's Office on June 1, 2001. The department has a multifaceted assessment system in place to measure learning outcomes and provide feedback for program improvement. Beginning May 2002, TrakDat software is being used to manage the assessment system and generate reports.

Department-Wide Measures Available to Each Sequence or Program Area:

1. ISU/TEC Undergraduate and Graduate Alumni Follow-Up Survey conducted annually by the University Assessment Office provides data regarding students' satisfaction with the university, department, and sequence as well as information on placement and attainment of learning outcomes in major field of study.
2. Graduating Senior Exit Survey provides quantitative data on "customer service" issues such as quality of instruction, advisement, and facilities. Although this survey will not provide student outcome measures, it may indicate areas that need improvement (such as lab equipment, computer access, etc) and therefore may directly affect learning outcomes.
3. Survey of Employers - Employers will be asked to rate the graduate's attainment of instructional outcomes and the importance of those outcomes to the graduate's successful performance of job duties.

Sequence or Program Specific Assessment Measures

Each sequence/program has the option of using whatever measurement tools they deem effective to assess instructional outcomes. Measurement tools may include: (a) comprehensive exit examination in the sequence capstone course that uses benchmarks to gauge continuous improvement, (b) student performance on appropriate certification examinations (NAIT, SME, CPC, etc.), (c) examinations or performance activities in specific classes, (d) results from ISU/TEC Follow-up Survey, and (e) other measures as determined by the sequence.

Feedback of Assessment Information for Sequence or Program Improvement

The following data feedback events are designed to close the loop between collection of data and program improvement.

1. Summary of all assessment information will be included in annual report.
2. Each sequence is encouraged to hold at least one sequence meeting to discuss the results of outcome measures and plan improvements for areas of concern.
3. Sequences are strongly encouraged to share their annual assessment report with Advisory Committees and solicit input (as appropriate) on program improvement.
4. The annual fall faculty retreat will include a session where assessment data is reviewed and priorities established for the coming year.

The quality assurance assessment plan and all related documents are on file in the department office.