

## **Guiding Principles**

The Faculty Senate approved the following Guiding Principles for assessment:

1. The primary responsibility for developing, implementing, and evaluating student outcomes assessment plans rests with the faculty;
2. The focus of student outcomes should be on programs rather than on individual faculty;
3. The assessment of student learning is most effective when it reflects an understanding of learning as multidimensional;
4. The focus of student outcomes assessment should be on academic programs rather than individual students;
5. Improvement of student learning is a long-range process;
6. Student outcomes assessment fosters greater improvement when representatives from both inside and outside the educational community are involved;
7. Each program will develop its own unique assessment plan within the framework of the "guiding principles;"
8. The assessment of student learning begins with educational values;
9. Student outcomes assessment plans can only sample intended outcomes;
10. The student outcomes assessment program should be dynamic and evolving;
11. Student outcomes assessment results should be used for comparisons between current and previous performance of a program rather than among university programs;
12. Assessment of student learning should be based on the use of multiple measures;
13. Student outcomes assessment should address standards of performance related to improvement;
14. Student outcomes assessment data should be evaluated and used.