

Delta College: Creating Institutional Learning Outcomes

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Higher Learning Commission 2013 Statement on Assessment:

- “...Institutions should be able to define and evaluate how their students are learning: ... institutions should be able to describe the kind of experiences they expect students to have inside and outside the classroom.”





First steps:

- General Education Learning Outcomes were updated in 2012-2013.
- Faculty General Education Resource Groups revised the GELO's and they were approved in an all faculty-vote.

General Education Outcomes influenced by:

AAC & U Essential Learning Outcomes

1. Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world
2. Intellectual and practical skills
3. Personal and social responsibility
4. Integrative and applied learning

General Education Outcomes influenced by:

Lumina Foundation Degree Profile

- Specialized knowledge
- Broad, integrative knowledge
- Intellectual Skills
- Applied Learning
- Civic Learning
- Institution-specific areas

The missing assessment:

- student learning outside of the classroom!
 - in the library, in Career Services, in Student Engagement and Co-op. Also CCSSE.
 - needed to be performed and reported!
- Delta College needed
institutional learning outcomes.

Faculty and Staff assessment retreat (March 2014)

- ~ 50 faculty members, academic managers and student affairs representatives attended
- comparative research on ISLO's was shared

and then...

Brainstorming ISLO's

- Groups of ~ 10
 - provided with breakout rooms
 - given large strips with General Education outcomes and a few additional
 - given tape, markers, and a facilitator to oversee
- Goal:
 - group similar outcomes together for the creation of larger institutional outcomes (ISLO's)
 - propose how those ISLO's could be named

YOU GET TO DO THE SAME! 😊

- Work in your group to develop overarching institutional learning outcomes.
- Concentrate first on grouping and reducing, synthesizing the outcomes provided.
- What is the overarching student competency?
- Take them to a broader, higher level.

Delta's ISLO's...

Graduates of Delta College:

- Apply Knowledge and Skills
- Think Critically
- Communicate Effectively
- Act Responsibly

These outcomes were shared with all employee groups and academic leadership. Approved in Curriculum Council in Fall of 2014.

Next steps:

1. Create assessment teams for each department that has student learning initiatives. Assessment course is available through Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence
2. Create learning outcomes for each point of student engagement and learning. Focus first on the “big rocks”, high impact student affairs experiences.
3. Develop assessment tools and cycle for assessment
4. Report all student affairs assessment through SLAC and under a particular ISLO in the assessment database

Next steps:

5. Develop partnerships between general education and program assessment groups to conduct shared assessment. Share rubrics, assessment tools
6. Appoint more student affairs representatives to the Student Learning Assessment Committee
7. Develop avenues to share results of assessment projects to improve student learning and promote shared initiatives across the college

Next steps:

8. Increase awareness of the new Institutional Student Learning Outcomes across the college
9. Move toward another revision of General Education Outcomes. The ISLO process underscored the need for fewer outcomes that faculty will more clearly recognize and include in course outcomes.
10. ??? What is missing/forgotten/overlooked??

Enjoy your time in the sun; this is what Michigan looks like right now:

