

Institutional Assessment

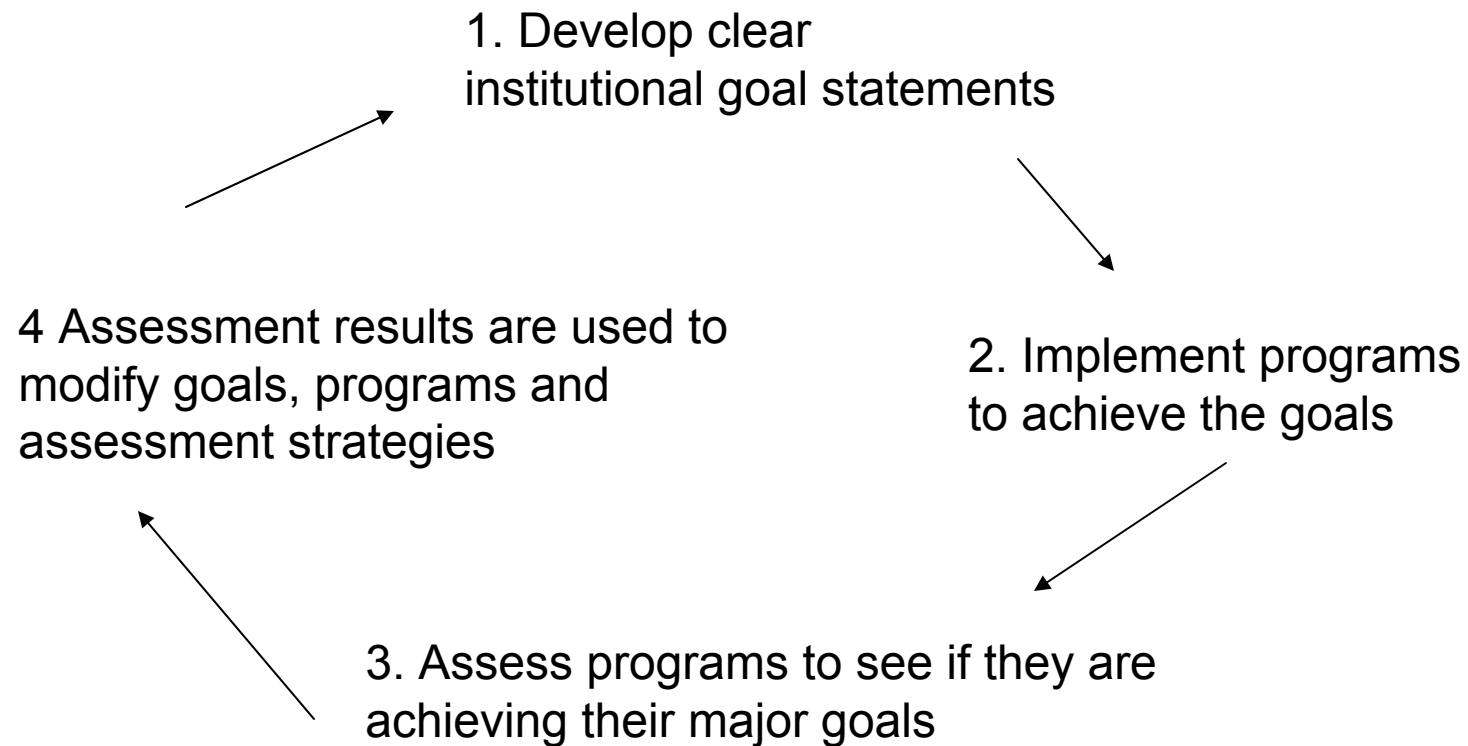
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CCAC All College Day
August 17, 2005

Institutional Assessment

- Are we accomplishing what we set to do?
- Institutional Assessment:
 1. How well is an institution achieving its mission and major institutional goals?
 2. Assessment of student learning is a major component of the assessment of institutional effectiveness.
 3. How well do college resources (facilities, technology, employees, finances...) support student learning?

Assessment as a four step continuous cycle



Why conduct assessment?

1. To improve our college and learning
 - Data driven
 - Move forward (continuous improvement)
 - Focus resources on actions that work
2. External pressure
 - Accrediting agency
 - Communicate effectiveness to stakeholders

Middle States' expectations for institutional assessment

- A written assessment plan and process
 - *Foundation in mission, goals, vision values*
 - Comprehensiveness: institutional attributes and student learning
 - Collaboration of faculty and administration
 - Systematic and thorough
 - Used for planning, resource allocation and renewal
 - Timetable and commitment of institutional resources
 - Periodic assessment of the assessment plan itself
- Use of assessment to improve administrative services and processes
- *A written institutional plan that reflects consideration of assessment data*

Self Study Chapter 7: Institutional Assessment

- “...this work is done without the benefit of a written plan and structured processes for the assessment of institutional effectiveness as it is linked to institutional and student learning outcomes. In the absence of a plan, assessment thus appears episodic rather than periodic and systematic”

February 2005

Self Study Chapter 14: Assessment of Student Learning

- “...CCAC has no instituted, official, or comprehensive plan that describes student learning assessment activities at the college.”

February 2005

Standard 7: Visiting Team Report

- “...the Team could not affirm compliance with Standard 7 due to the absence of
 - a written assessment plan
 - the absence of evidence of periodic assessment of institutional effectiveness that addresses the total range of educational offerings, services, and processes
 - the lack of evidence indicating the use of assessment results to improve and gain efficiencies in administrative services and processes; and
 - the absence of a written institutional (strategic) plan that reflects consideration of data use from assessment outcomes.”

April 2005

Standard 14: Visiting Team Report

- “The Team’s interviews with faculty, staff and administration affirmed that the College does not have a comprehensive and consistent assessment methodology in place to monitor student progress and learning outcomes adequately.”
- “...the Team found that there is no plan that clearly articulates the College’s assessment activities and expectations.”
- “the Team could find no evidence that indicated the College could substantively and consistently demonstrate that students had knowledge, skills, and competencies consistent with institutional goals.”

April 2005

Middle States means business

- “...on June 22, 2005 the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted to warn the Community College of Allegheny County that its accreditation may be in jeopardy and to request a monitoring report, due by April 1, 2006, documenting development of comprehensive plans for institutional assessment and the assessment of student learning.”

Not all bad news

- CCAC complies with 12 other standards
- Mission review underway as part of strategic planning process - in compliance with Standard 1
- Strategic planning process underway - in compliance with Standard 2

Recent progress in assessment

- Developed effectiveness indicators for Institutional Assessment
 - Set of performance metrics based on mission and goals
 - Collaborative: input of R&D subcommittee of college council
 - Systematic: timetable developed
 - Used for current strategic planning process
 - Commitment of resources: added new PIR staff member to focus on assessment
- New chief academic officer
- Formation of faculty led assessment group

What's Next?

- Visit with MSA for feedback on student learning and institutional assessment
- College representatives will attend the Middle States Assessment seminars in Pittsburgh Sept. 7-8
- Conduct internal assessment audits – Fall 2005
- Comprehensive assessment plan and the strategic plan will be rolled out concurrently in February 2006
- Monitoring report produced and submitted to Middle States, April 2006

What will we assess?

- **Achieving mission and goals** Standard 1
- **Implementing planning** Standard 2
- **Resource allocation** Standard 2
- **Institutional renewal processes** Standard 2
- **Using resources efficiently** Standard 3
- **Leadership and governance** Standard 4
- **Administrative structures & services** Standard 4
- **Institutional integrity** Standard 6

What will we assess?

- institutional processes and resources support appropriate learning and other outcomes for its students and graduates. Bridge to student learning

Conclusion

- In God we trust; all others bring data.

U.S Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings
quoting W. Edwards Deming

- Focus

- www.ccac.edu/planning