



Meaningful Assessment Matters

The Assessment Committee <tracdat@lssu.edu>

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To: LSSU Staff <lssustaff@lssu.edu>

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Meaningful Assessment Matters

We all care deeply about student learning and sustaining a strong effective institution. We strive daily to improve student learning, create supportive and encouraging environments for our students, and build toward our common institutional goals as defined in the mission and strategic plan.

Periodically, we need to step back from the activities of teaching, committee work and our daily routines of our jobs to consider whether students are learning all we intend, whether our office practices and the programs we provide have been effective, and whether we are achieving our institutional goals. Then we must use what we have learned to improve. This is the basis of meaningful assessment – setting reasonable goals, identifying the means to attain the goals, measuring our progress toward those goals and using that information to improve student learning and institutional effectiveness.

Faculty and staff are the ones who are best able to exercise their professional judgement in all aspects of meaningful assessment. There is no single or uniquely right way to assess student learning or the effectiveness of our programs and services. There is no predetermined target level for student performance, or administrative unit performance. There is no single action which must result when we consider the results of our assessment. Continue to exercise your good judgement as you engage in an ongoing process of review, evaluation, action and documentation leading to enhanced student achievement and to a strong, effective university.

P.S. Just as a reminder: Any faculty member or department can submit assessment summaries directly in Tracdat, or indirectly using an alternative format. To do the latter simply prepare a short summary report, following a format that uniquely fits your department, school or college, or use a template like that in the attached example (also available at <http://www.lssu.edu/assessment/documents/AssessmentActivityLog.docx>).

The summary reports can be stored on a shared network drives, emailed to tracdat@lssu.edu or sent by campus mail to D. Myton in ADMIN206

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The Shared Governance Assessment Committee
Supporting student learning and institutional effectiveness
tracdat@lssu.edu



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