



Why CARE about Assessment?

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To: LSSU Staff <lssustaff@lssu.edu>

Why CARE about Assessment?

First let's look at what DO we care about. We care about student learning, and building a strong and healthy university. The Assessment Committee agrees with this sentiment and wants to keep the focus on student achievement and institutional effectiveness.

There are four aspects that are common to all evaluative activity in this context:

- a) defining clear goals for student learning and institutional effectiveness
- b) having effective ways to measure achievement of those goals
- c) collecting information on the attainment of our goals
- d) using the information collected to improve student learning and institutional effectiveness

How does this data being used?

There are clear benefits, and obligations, that led the university to develop a central integrated system for the collection and aggregation of assessment data across all units. Faculty and staff need to be individually engaged in assessment of student learning and institutional effectiveness within their work, but that doesn't mean that everyone needs to personally enter their piece of the assessment puzzle directly into Tracdat.

So What about Tracdat?

Tracdat provides a way to collect institutional evidence on assessment, institutional progress toward our goals. Individuals and departments can simply prepare a short report, following a format that uniquely fits your department, school or college, or use a four-column template like this example: (<http://www.lssu.edu/assessment/documents/AssessmentActivityLog.docx>). Reports can be stored on a shared network drive, emailed to tracdat@lssu.edu, or sent by campus mail to D.Myton ADMIN206.

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The Shared Governance Assessment Committee
'Supporting student learning and institutional effectiveness'
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