Principles of Assessment

- Assessment is not an end in itself but a vehicle for educational improvement (larger goal).

- Assessment is a goal-oriented process, and therefore it will work best when instructors, programs and the institution itself have clearly stated goals (Linked to the mission statement).

- The assessment committee will define outcomes to be assessed with input from the wider college community. The outcomes should reflect the mission of the college.

- To be effective and meaningful college-wide assessment requires staff support to collect and analyze data.

- The outcomes of General Education are the responsibility of the faculty as a whole, not individual department.

- Begin small: Initially, assessment should focus on a minimal number of outcomes.

- Assessment should be minimally intrusive for both faculty and students.

- Assessment of student learning and development is a process that is separate from faculty evaluation.

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