

ACADEMIC MASTER PLAN MASTER GOAL #7

Master Goal #7: Regularly assess and evaluate all institutional functions and programs to assure continuous improvements and to maximize efficiencies.

In support of the University's Master Goal #7, academic departments and support units will develop and implement assessment plans for all degree programs and services. Performance and needs for achieving program service goals will influence the alignment of the University's budget.

Academic departments and support units will align degree and service program goals with University learning goals. Academic departments will further align curricular elements with degree program goals. In support of academic department and support unit efforts, the University will develop information technology and data analysis capacity to support the goals and strategies for Master Goal #7.

The following objectives are needed to achieve these aims.

1. The university will acquire and make fully operational a strategic planning software package (SPOL) capable of supporting academic departments and support units in planning, budgeting, measuring, assessing, and reporting student learning outcomes aligned to degree program and service program goals.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: 100% of academic departments and support units will have one or more members fully trained in the use of strategic planning software by the end of the 2009 calendar year.

2. All academic departments will develop a student learning assessment plan that:

- a) states expected Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for its degree programs;
- b) identifies where in the curriculum or other learning activities SLOs are to be addressed;
- c) states the methods and criteria to be used for assessing SLOs;
- d) states the expected level of performance for SLOs;
- e) identifies and collects baseline measurements of student performance on SLOs;
- f) determines a schedule for continuing assessments and specifies who will be assessed and who will interpret assessment results; and
- g) specifies how results will be disseminated, how they will inform changes in teaching and learning, and how departments will follow-up on implemented changes.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: Academic Deans will receive reports stipulating the above elements of departmental learning assessment plans for 100% of degree programs by the end of the calendar year 2009. Deans will receive subsequent annual reports detailing any changes to degree program assessment plans.

3. Support units will develop similar plans to assess services that support student learning outcomes and other key operations.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: Support units will send reports to appropriate officers in the Provost's Office stipulating the elements of unit assessment plans for selected service programs by the end of the calendar year 2009. The appropriate officers in the Provost's Office will receive subsequent annual reports detailing any changes to service program assessment plans.

4. Academic Departments will fully implement measurement of student learning assessment plans for 100% of degree programs during AY 2010.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: Academic Deans will receive reports on the results of student learning assessment plans for all degree programs by the end of the calendar year 2010. All reports will include clear comparison of AY 2010 results with baseline measurements of student performance on SLOs from the original student learning assessment plans. In addition, reports will specify how results are to be disseminated, how they will affect changes in teaching and learning, and departments will follow-up on changes.

5. Support units will fully implement assessment plans for selected service programs and key operations during AY 2010.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: Appropriate officers in the Provost's Office will receive reports on the results of assessment plans for service programs by the end of the calendar year 2010. All reports will include clear comparison of AY 2010 results with baseline measurements of from the original assessment plans. In addition, reports will specify how results are to be disseminated, how they will affect changes in service programs, and units will follow-up on changes.

6. The university will develop a fully operational Survey Research Center to support all departments and degree programs in regular student learning assessment.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: A university Survey Research Center will begin full operations by September 2011.

7. All academic departments will include needs demonstrated in student learning assessment results with other materials used to justify budget requests to support their respective degree programs.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: Budget requests from 100% of Academic Departments for FY 2011 support will include justification based on documented student learning assessment results. All subsequent annual budget requests will include assessment results with the materials used for justification.

8. Support units will include needs demonstrated in service programs and key operations assessment results with other materials used to justify budget requests to support their respective services and operations.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR: Budget requests from 100% of Support units for FY 2011 support will include justification based on documented service programs and key operations assessment results. All subsequent annual budget requests will include assessment results with the materials used for justification.