



Stony Brook University

# Aligning Results, Actions & Improvements

**November 3, 2023**

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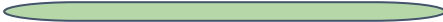
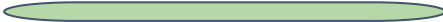
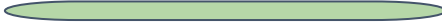
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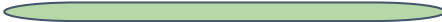

# OEE Fall Workshop Series: Assessment Process 2.0

- OEE & the Assessment Process
- Improving your Program Goals & Learning Objectives
- Improving your Curriculum Map & Ensuring Your Metrics are Aligned
- Improving your Benchmarks & Setting Realistic Assessment Cycle Timelines
- **Aligning Results, Actions & Improvements**

# Housekeeping: 23-24 Assessment Reports

- **Who:** All Programs & Assessment Coordinators
- **What:** Assess at least one PLO and update top section on accomplishments/improvements
- **When:** February 23, 2024
- **How:** Use OEE templates

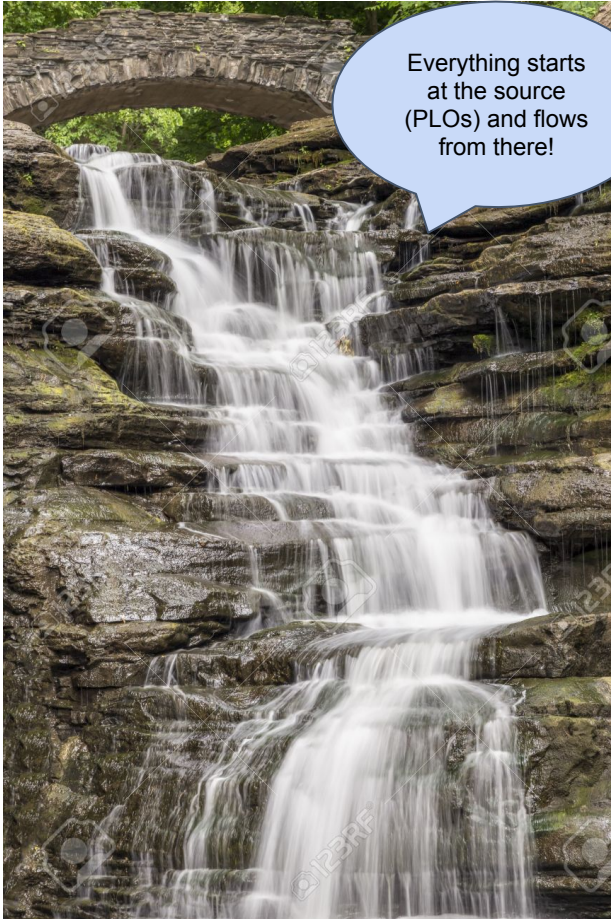
School or College	
Department	
Degree Program	
Program Goals	
Accomplishments	
Improvements	
Evidence that Prompted Improvement <input type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Program Learning Objective 1:</b> Upon completion of the degree, students should be able to...	
Location in Curriculum Map (Course Name)	
Assessment Method	
Timeline/Frequency	
Benchmark	
Results/Findings	
Actions/Improvements	

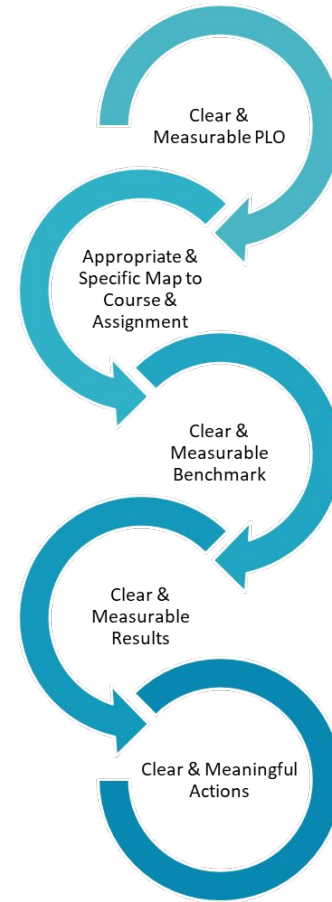
# OEE Workshop Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Communicate assessment results in alignment with your benchmarks.
- Identify actions for improvement that directly support future achievement of your benchmarks.
- Use your results and actions to advocate for improvement-oriented resources and interventions.



Everything starts  
at the source  
(PLOs) and flows  
from there!





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# Communicating and Aligning Your Assessment Results

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# Results & Findings: Template Excerpt

Program Learning Objective 1: Upon completion of the degree, students should be able to...	
Location in Curriculum Map (Course Name)	
Assessment Method	
Timeline/Frequency	
Benchmark	
Results/Findings	
Actions/Improvements	

# Articulating your Results Clearly and Effectively

**Use your benchmark statement to frame your results statement.  
Tell us how students did compared to how you hoped they'd do.**

Sample Benchmark	Sample Result
75% of students will obtain a B or better on the final exam.	82% of students obtained a B or better on the final exam. Benchmark met.
90% of students will submit a paper of “publishable quality,” defined as 8/10 points on the checklist rubric.	83% of students submitted a paper of “publishable quality,” defined as 8/10 points on the checklist rubric. Benchmark not yet met.
60% of students will answer questions related to PLO 1 correctly on the final exam (worth 42.5 points out of 100 points).	77% of students answered questions related to PLO 1 correctly on the final exam (worth 42.5 points out of 100 points). Benchmark met.

## Add Details/Context (Optional)

### Include contextual details for further insight:

- How many students were included in your sample size?
- Were there any noticeable trends in incorrect answers, misconceptions, or areas for students to improve?
- Were there any noticeable trends in correct answers, mastered concepts, or student strengths?
- Were there any external factors that could have influenced the results?

## Add Details/Context (Optional)

Sample Benchmark	Sample Result	Additional Optional Details
75% of students will obtain a B or better on the final exam.	82% of students obtained a B or better on the final exam. Benchmark met.	Remaining scores are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12% scored C to B-</li> <li>• 4% scored D or lower</li> </ul> 50% of the students who did not meet the B or better target missed 3 or more class meetings during the semester.
90% of students will submit a paper of “publishable quality,” defined as 8/10 points on the checklist rubric.	83% of students submitted a paper of “publishable quality,” defined as 8/10 points on the checklist rubric. Benchmark not yet met.	25% of students missed points on citation conventions. Students generally produced strong abstracts but had difficulty describing their research process in the methodology section.
60% of students will correctly answer questions related to PLO 1 on the final exam (worth 42.5 points out of 100 points).	77% of students correctly answered questions related to PLO 1 on the final exam (worth 42.5 points out of 100 points). Benchmark met.	On average, students scored 34/42.5 points related to PLO on the final exam (n=27 students). Students frequently missed points on questions related to macroeconomics.

## Examples of Unclear/Misaligned Results

**Benchmark:** Students must pass the course with a grade of B or better.

**Results:** These courses generally serve their purpose well. Once a student has advanced to candidacy it is expected that students will continue to hone these skills in research group meetings and seminars.

**Benchmark:** 90% of students will score 85% or better on the final project

**Results:** All students attended all classes and completed their reading assignments to actively participate in each class. Each student showed significant growth in their knowledge base with the development of a solid working knowledge that is appropriate for their future needs in research.

**Benchmark:** We expect at least 80% of our students to achieve above average scores using the rubric.

**Results:** Students are performing above average in their coursework.

# Examples of Clear, Meaningful & Aligned Results

**Benchmark:** 80% scoring an average of 4 or above on the essays.

**Results:** 95% received an average of 4 or above on the essays.

**Benchmark:** On average, each student will receive a total of 18 points or 2 points per category on the final paper.

**Results:** On average, each student received a total of 19.4 points, on the final paper, meeting the benchmark.

**Additional detail:** The highest scores were found under “Relevance of Sources,” “Grammar & Prose,” and “Format & Citation.” ... The lowest scores were found under the other two “Command of Historiography” sub-categories ...

**Benchmark:** At least 90% of students will receive a grade of 90% or higher, and 100% of students will receive a grade of 85% or higher.

**Results:** 100% of students received a 90% or higher, exceeding our benchmark.



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# Communicating and Aligning Your Actions & Improvements

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# Actions & Improvements: Template Excerpt

Program Learning Objective 1: Upon completion of the degree, students should be able to...	
Location in Curriculum Map (Course Name)	
Assessment Method	
Timeline/Frequency	
Benchmark	
Results/Findings	
<b>Actions/Improvements</b>	



## Articulating Actions/Improvements When You've Met Your Benchmark

- **Step 1: Celebrate!** Recognize to those who helped make it a success!
- **Step 2: Don't leave the template box blank or write "N/A."** Include a sentence explicitly stating "Benchmark met - no action needed" or something similar so that we know this is intentional.



### OPTIONAL

- ❖ Tell us what made this **effective** or **successful**.
- ❖ Make your benchmark more **challenging**.
- ❖ Challenge yourself to find improvements

## Articulating Actions/Improvements When You Haven't Met Your Benchmark Yet

- **Step 1:** Don't panic! Use this as an opportunity to reflect and move forward.
- **Step 2:** Collaborate with the key faculty and staff involved with the PLO to brainstorm **revisions or resources** that could **improve** results next time.
- **Step 3:** Document your commitments and next steps in your assessment plan.



# Use of Assessment Results (MSCHE)

- a. assisting students in improving their learning;
- b. improving pedagogy and curriculum;
- c. reviewing and revising academic programs and support services;
- d. planning, conducting, and supporting a range of professional development activities;
- e. planning and budgeting for the provision of academic programs and services;
- f. informing appropriate constituents about the institution and its programs;
- g. improving key indicators of student success, such as retention, graduation, transfer, and placement rates;
- h. implementing other processes and procedures designed to improve educational programs and services;

# Consider Areas to Improve

- **Curriculum**
  - Revise program/course sequencing, pre-requisites, assessment methods, instructional approaches, supplemental learning materials, update textbooks, delivery format, etc.
- **Administration**
  - Revise admissions criteria, advisement processes, departmental policies, student support services, course permissions, etc.
- **Assessing the Assessment**
  - Revise your PLOs, curricular mapping, assessment methods, benchmarks, etc, to obtain more meaningful data in the subsequent assessment cycle.

# Consider What Resources You'll Need

- **Financial**
  - Are there funds you can dedicate to help improve a PLO?
- **Personnel**
  - Are there additional or adjusted faculty/staff/TA/GA responsibilities you can arrange to help improve a PLO?
- **Physical**
  - Classrooms, collaborative space, laboratory resources, hardware, software?
- **Time**
  - Faculty/TA office hours? Alternate meeting times? Dedicate class time to group projects or student meetings?
- **Pedagogical**
  - Supplemental readings? Guest lectures? New Modules? Flipped classroom? Entry/Exit tickets?

# Examples of Clear & Aligned Actions/Improvements

**Benchmark:** 80% of students will score 85% or better on the final exam.

**Results:** 75% of students scored 85% or better on the final exam. Benchmark not yet met.

**Actions:** Some students seemed to have difficulties with some of the fundamental concepts in this course. It is recommended that the main teachers of this course send students a summary of the main concepts they will learn in advance so that they can start reviewing them before coming to campus.

**Benchmark:** 80% of students receive a B or better on the final paper.

**Results:** 100% of students received a B or better on the final paper. Benchmark met.

**Actions:** No changes to the benchmark will be made, although student feedback indicated that short one-on-one meetings with faculty regarding the final paper were useful. Therefore, when the course is offered again we plan on making these meetings a mandatory activity.

# Questions & Discussion

Questions?



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