



California University of Pennsylvania

POLICY: Assessment of Student Learning

A. Purpose & Scope:

Assessment of Student Learning is a means of determining what students know or can do as a result of an educational experience. Institutions of higher education are accountable for demonstrating that educational goals and objectives are viable and result in measurable student learning.

B. Definition(s):

Assessment of Student Learning is a process of clearly stating educational philosophies or missions, goals and objectives, and measuring the extent to which these are realized in terms of what students know or can do. Assessment data are used to improve philosophy statements, goals, objectives, methods of delivery and methods of measurement in efforts to improve student learning outcomes.

C. Policy:

Assessment of student learning is mandated by Board of Governors Policy 1997-01. Methods of assessing student learning must be developed for each of the following areas:

- Basic Skills or Developmental Programs
- General Education
- Undergraduate Academic Majors
- Academic Minors (where no major exists)
- Graduate Programs
- Co-Curricular Programs (with student development goals)

Each of these assessments is conducted annually. Program-level assessment for undergraduate academic majors is a substantial component of the five-year Program Review. Each program for which a degree is granted must assess achievement of student learning goals.

D. Procedure(s):

Each of the areas of Assessment of Student Learning is prescribed by the BOG policy and is conducted annually. A University-wide Assessment of Student Learning Committee and the Associate Provost for Student Retention/Success oversee the processes. A Developmental Studies Assessment of Student Learning Committee is responsible for Basic Skills assessment in mathematics, writing and reading. Annual reports are submitted. The General Education Committee assesses components of the General Education curriculum each year. An annual report is submitted. Undergraduate and Graduate Program-Level Assessments of Student Learning are completed by each academic department for each area in which a degree is granted. Annual assessments are evaluated by the University-wide Assessment of Student Learning Committee and results shared with the departments, faculty and the Provost. Co-curricular Programs are assessed by Student Affairs annually and data are shared with the Associate Provost for Student Retention/Success.

E. Effective date: 2005 Faculty Handbook

Updated date: August 15, 2010