

# Things to Consider

Below are a few tips for items to consider when preparing Academic Program Outcomes Assessment Plans and Annual Reports. These tips are based on prior annual program outcome assessment reviews that highlight essential areas of importance to the improvement in student learning at OSU.

## Plans and Reports

- Do the learning outcomes clearly communicate what students should know, be able to do, understand, or dispositions/attitudes?
- Are at least 3-5 expected student learning outcomes listed?
- Are different learning outcomes listed for bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees (or the same learning outcomes with different levels of expectation)?
- Was the program consistently engaged in assessment of student learning outcomes?
- Were the assessment methods reasonable, manageable, and meaningful?
- Does the program rely too heavily on indirect assessment methods (e.g., satisfaction surveys or surveys of alumni)?
- Does the program have reasonable department- or program-level structures, processes, and resources to support assessment? Or is it done by a single faculty member with no additional faculty engagement or support? Are faculty members engaged in the assessment process?
- Does the program have a clear plan for sharing and using assessment data for program improvement?
- Does the program have a plan for improving student learning included as part of the recommendations and implementation plan?
- Has assessment of student learning outcomes resulted in improvements to the program or discussions about possible improvements? Has the program used results from surveys of alumni or achievements of program graduates to make improvements to the program?
- Did the program use provided assessment funds appropriately (if applicable)?

## Annual Report Review

- Has the program used assessment data to make improvements to the program?
- Does the program have a plan for improving student learning over the next five years?
- Does the program have a reasonable plan for making assessment more meaningful, manageable, and likely to result in improvement?
- What improvements should be implemented to enhance the program's assessment practices?