

## Program Assessment Plan Best Practices:

### General:

- Use both direct and indirect assessment.
- Use primarily summative assessment for PLO's.
- Program assessment should be authentic.
- Program assessment should include triangulation when possible.

### Time Period:

- Plan to assess one-two PLO's per year. All PLO's do not need to be assessed every year.
- Should assess all PLO's in a three to 4 year cycle.

### Student Samples:

- Evidence can be based on a relevant sample of student work. Every student does not need to be included in evidence.
- Care should be taken to avoid biased samples.
- Generally samples of 50-80 students are sufficient.
- If fewer than 15 students in program, may need to collect results for several semesters.

### Ethical Issues:

- Identity of participants (faculty and students) should be anonymous in any shared results.
- Those conducting the study should keep identities confidential.

*Adapted from Mary J. Allen Assessment Workshop Handout, May 23, 2011, by T.C.*