

Mathematics Report SLOAC Review Comments

Thanks for filing an assessment plan with the SLOAC. We have the following comments for you to consider:

1. Thank you for noting the trends in your scores and for being cautious interpreting results given your small sample size.
2. Thank you for considering the inclusion of Math 225 in your required curriculum. This could be a good place to do some formative assessment (see final comment below), once you have the course designed to meet your needs.
3. As your assessment evolves, we would encourage you to use a more direct method of assessment instead of the Rating Sheet for the Capstone Courses. Grounding your assessment in a specific artifact will likely result in more valid assessment data.
4. We are encouraging programs to consider ways of doing more formative assessment instead of relying only on assessment data gained during the senior seminar course. In other words, is there a course that all students take early in their careers where you can gather similar data to compare with students when they are finished with your program. As a related issue, how much do your students know about their scores on assessment? Is there a way for students to “track” their progress through your program on the outcomes. Please consider how you can move your assessment to a deeper level by considering these additions.

We do not need anything more from you for this year. We’ll be looking carefully over the next several years at data gathered on outcomes related to your grant 2007 grant to create and implement labs for the Calculus courses.

Your next report will be due on October 31, 2008.

If you wish to apply for an Instructional Improvement Grant, the deadline is January 31, 2008. Complete details are available at www.mnstate.edu/assess, click on Grants.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Jean Sando at sandoje@mnstate.edu.