

Mathematics Plan and Report SLOAC Review Comments

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

Plan

1. On your capstone survey. We referenced your previous survey since there wasn't one included in your packet. Is this completed by the instructor or student? You might wish to reduce your scale, use more evaluators, or focus on specific assignments to make this more useful or direct.
2. Some of the outcomes addressed by this survey are kind of fuzzy and that's the key difficulty. They aren't easily assessed. Additionally, the broad/fuzzy nature of these outcomes makes it difficult to determine how to improve scores when they are lower than you'd expect.
3. Are you including math education majors in this data?
4. Setting level of performance expectation. You should have some idea of baseline data at this time to start identifying what you expect students to be able to do. Comparing their expected performance with actual performance will help you set priorities for future action.

Report

1. You could do to address some of your outcomes, but it looks like you are working seriously on calculus. Your response to that item is well-supported by the assessment data. You could apply for a grant to help transition to a new way of teaching calculus. You'll want to make clear how an extra hour will help assessment scores.
2. Which outcomes will you address next?
3. What is the number of students who were tested each year?

Future Action

Tim will clarify a few things on your forms based on our discussion, so you won't need to submit them again. However, we would encourage you to consider the comments about the outcomes, survey, and level of expectations of student performance. You can file a revised plan at any time. Your next report will be due October 31.

Grant applications are due Jan. 31. The form is available at www.mnstate.edu/assess.

If you have questions at any time, please contact Tim Borchers at borchers@mnstate.edu.

Thanks!