

QUESTIONS FOR ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT FOCUS GROUPS

Topic Area	Questions
Instructor Assessments	<p>How do you assess your teaching and student learning? [FOR EXAMPLE, SURVEYS SHOW THAT EXAMS, PAPERS AND CAPSTONE PROJECTS ARE COMMONLY USED.]</p> <p>After you have gathered the data, what do you do with it besides using it for grading students?</p> <p>PROBE: ANYONE ELSE?</p>
Perceived Value of Assessments	<p>What do you value about assessment? Are there specific assessment methods that add value to your teaching? PROBE: What value do these assessments add to ongoing revisions to the courses you teach?</p> <p>Is there evidence that you can collect that you don't collect right now but that you'd like to collect? PROBE: WHAT ABOUT THIS DO YOU VALUE?</p> <p>What would keep you from doing so?</p>
Assessment Resources	<p>Did you receive any orientation to assessment?</p> <p>When you plan assessments for your teaching [if you do so], where do you find resources? Some commonly used resources for measuring student learning are professional association websites, colleagues, journals, accrediting body resources, UF institutional assessment resources, and others.</p> <p>What resources would you like to have?</p>
Assessment at Department/ Program/Major Level	<p>POLL THE GROUP ON HOW MANY HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH OR UNDERSTAND THEIR PROGRAM/MAJOR ASSESSMENT.</p> <p>So far we have discussed your assessments in courses. We recognize that you are offering high quality programs and majors. We are interested in what outcomes – quality measures (not counts – outputs), your gather at the department level. What do you use to tell the story of the quality of your program/major?</p>
Assessment versus Accreditation	<p>To what extent does accreditation drive your assessment work? Recognizing that most of us have accrediting bodies that we are responsible to, if we could suspend that and it did not exist, how would you assess student learning? PROBE: IF THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO RESPOND TO THEM, 'WHAT WOULD YOU DO?'</p> <p>Do you use assessments in addition to those mandated as a part of accreditation?</p>
Assessment Culture	<p>What is your perception of the culture at UF around assessment? PROBE: IF YOU DIDN'T ELICIT ANY NEGATIVE COMMENTS, BE SURE TO SPECIFICALLY ASK FOR NEGATIVES.</p> <p>In what ways have you felt supported in your assessments by the University?</p> <p>What would be helpful to you to be more supported in assessment at the course, program or department level? REMEMBER TO ASK "ANYTHING ELSE?" A COUPLE OF TIMES.</p>
Closing Questions	<p>What haven't we asked today that you would like to talk about?</p> <p>Based on this conversation, what recommendations do you have for the Academic Assessment Committee?</p>