

Closing the Loop

We assess student learning achievements to improve learning and teaching. At the course level, the individual faculty member adapts and changes elements of the course based on student performance data. These changes are reported to the assessment committee electronically at least annually. The changes are reported categorically.

At the program level, during program/discipline reviews, faculty and administrators review student success data and make program changes as indicated.

At the core competence level of GEOs, faculty responsible for those general education courses review student performance data and make course changes designed to improve learning for subsequent students.

At the level of contextual competence, for both GEOs and ECs, the assessment committee analyzes the data, examines the artifacts of student performance, and annually leads an all-faculty discussion of the data and its implications. As a result of the discussion, teaching and learning strategies may be changed at any level to improve student learning.

In all of these cases, it is important to not only close the loop by making changes in courses, programs, or teaching strategies, it is also important to assess the outcomes of the changes. This is done by completing a simple form prepared by the assessment committee, the closing the loop form.