



## **Assessment Guide:**

### **How to Interpret Committee Feedback**

The way Academic Program Assessment Committee (APAC) organizes our feedback has changed slightly. We are now grouping our comments into four sections: Required Changes, Recommended Improvements, Things to Consider, and Best Practices to Maintain. In general, here is a good way to process each of the sections:

**Required Changes:** As a campus, over time, we have developed a culture of assessment that is real and good. In order to maintain that culture, there are some basic expectations that all programs need to be meeting. For example, all programs need a Mission statement. All Student Learning Outcomes need to be measured. These are high level, general expectations that all programs *must* meet. Sometimes new expectations arise. For example, a good number of our programs already have an Assessment Map. This is a good practice, a valuable process, and an excellent piece of evidence to demonstrate our level of attention to assessment as a campus. It's a simple process, but a new expectation moving forward. If your program does not have a current Assessment Map, you will see that in the "Required Changes" of your feedback.

**Recommended Improvements:** These are not required changes, but items that the committee strongly recommends you address. These are viewed as deficiencies and weaken the overall understanding of student learning in your program.

**Things to Consider:** These are things to think about that your peers have identified and are recommending. While APAC has good, broad representation, keep in mind that not all disciplines are represented in the committee make up. So some "Things to Consider" might not make sense to you as a faculty member within your particular discipline. That's certainly fine. Ultimate say in your program's assessment at this level is your program's judgement call. However, these are thoughtful items from your peers that should be considered.

**Best Practices to Maintain:** These are things that the committee believes you are doing well and wants to encourage you to continue doing. There are a range of things that could show up here.