Student Learning Outcomes at Texas A&M University

Texas A&M International Board
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Assessment: A Brief History

- Standardized testing (1900-1933)
- General education & graduate education (1933-47)
- Rise of test providers (1948-1978)
- External accountability (1979-present)

A “culture of evidence” paired with “educational thinking”

(Shavelson, 2007)
Undergraduate Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

• Master the depth of knowledge required for a degree
• Demonstrate critical thinking
• Communicate effectively
• Practice personal and social responsibility
• Demonstrate social, cultural, and global competence
• Prepare to engage in lifelong learning
• Work collaboratively
Process of Developing SLOs

- Academic Master Planning process
- Feedback from campus community
- IAB input on “global competence”
- Final recommendations after refinement
- Approved January 2010

SLOs assess students’ total educational experience, not just their classes.
Global Competence SLO

Demonstrate social, cultural, & global competence, including the ability to:

• Live and work effectively in a diverse and global society
• Articulate the value of a diverse and global perspective
• Recognize diverse economic, political, cultural and religious opinions and practices
Ongoing Assessment of SLOs

- Global Perspectives Inventory (GPI)
- Graduation Survey
- Program Alignment
- Study Abroad Participation
- National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
Thank you!

Questions, ideas, feedback?

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