Learning Outcomes and Institutional Effectiveness Process

All academic programs at Argosy University have stated end-of-program learning outcomes designed to reflect the knowledge and skills students should be able to demonstrate after the completion of a degree program. The program learning outcomes have been developed by the faculty; are aligned with mandates from state, regional, or accrediting agencies; and with institutional level outcomes. The curriculum is designed in a manner to develop these program outcomes over the course of study and through a variety of learning experiences throughout the entire program.

Argosy University has an annual cycle of assessment and planning conducted at the program, campus, college and institutional levels in order to ensure that it accomplishes its mission. These assessment reviews are conducted as per either a multi-year assessment schedule leading up the Comprehensive Program Review (CPR) or per accreditation renewal timelines mandated by specialized programmatic agencies. As part of that cycle, faculty and academic staff conduct annual assessment reviews in which results at the course and program levels are evaluated and discussed. Faculty and staff also review action plans from the previous year to determine achievement of goals and to create new action plans as needed.

Assessment results and action plans are embedded in the overall Institutional Effectiveness Reviews and are a major component for budgetary and curricular decisions and recommendations. The findings are also presented in College-level discussions where results are evaluated for the programs as a whole. During these discussions, the College Dean and Associate Deans, along with Department Chairs (administrative faculty), examine whether the assessments have provided meaningful results reflecting student learning, irrespective of the delivery modality. This drives the development of national initiatives for the program for the following year(s). In addition, during the CPR, external reviewers are used to advise the University on program strengths, identify key areas of improvement and create a workable plan for achieving the desired improvements.