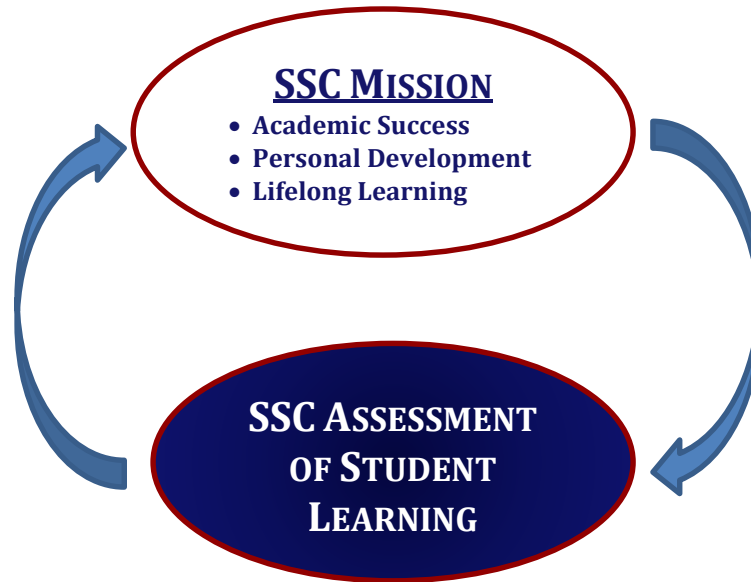# Assessment of Student Learning
Executive Summary
2013-14

At Seminole State College, assessment of student learning is a dynamic, comprehensive process designed to create and sustain a culture of learning on campus. The primary goal of the assessment of student learning is to continuously utilize all of the creative and analytical talents of the College to improve student learning and achievement. It is an ongoing process, distinct from the evaluation of individual students and faculty, and is driven by the mission of Seminole State College.

In general, the assessment of student learning is guided by the following line of questions: WHAT are students learning? HOW do we know it? And how do we USE this evidence to improve student learning? To answer these questions, academic assessment is conducted first and foremost at the course level, but also involves the use of other important self-inspective activities. All assessment activities are designed to determine if desired student learning outcomes for general education, degree programs, and the institution as a whole are being met. Factors such as the allocation of resources and the needs of local and global communities also share a dynamic relationship with the College, and therefore with the assessment process as well.

Critical activities completed during the 2013-14 academic year as the result of the assessment process include the following:

1. Conducted monthly meetings of the Assessment of Student Learning Committee.

2. Revised General Education Outcomes.

3. Conducted Degree Program Assessments for all associate degree/certificate programs.

4. Conducted Degree Program Evaluations for all associate degree/certificate programs.

5. Revised Mathematics Placement Tests.

6. Created a Distance Education Assessment Plan.

7. Conducted Degree Program Reviews for the following associate degrees/ certificates:

    AS Business
    AS Business Technology
    AS Computer Science

8. Conducted College Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) Test.

    a. Students were selected who were projected to complete at least 45 credit hours by the conclusion of the fall 2013 semester.
    b. Each student took two test modules chosen randomly from four subject areas that included writing skills, mathematics, reading and science.
    c. 200 students selected for testing participated.
    d. Mean scores for SSC students were slightly below the national mean in Reading and Science, while the reverse was true for Writing, Mathematics, and Critical Thinking.

9. Conducted Graduate Exit Survey.

    a. Two hundred fifty-eight students completed the revised form of the Graduate Exit Survey.
    b. The survey consisted of 45 questions.
    c. Two hundred thirty seven students or 91.8% indicated plans to transfer to a four year institution.
    d. Over 90% of the students stated they would definitely or probably choose Seminole State College again if starting over.
    e. Students listed professors overwhelmingly as the greatest strength at SSC while small class sizes came in a distant second. When asked for weaknesses, students most often stated lack of variety in course offerings and course times as well as poor laboratory equipment.

Critical assessment activities planned for the 2014-15 academic year include the following:

1. Devise and pilot a mechanism to objectively assess student success rates in individual course sections. To accomplish this task the Committee will develop a multivariate *student success index system* which will allow the calculation of precise student success indices for each course section offered on campus. The goals is to develop a fair system that takes into account the broad variety of factors that influence student success including those beyond the control of the College's faculty and staff.

2. Update the General Education Outcomes Matrix based on the 2014-15 General Education Outcomes.

3. Revise the *Student Feedback on Instruction* survey instrument for use only in face-to-face courses. This has been made possible by the development of a separate student feedback survey exclusively for online courses.