



Sam Houston
State University

Promoting Quality and Effective Assessment Practices Through Meta- Assessment

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First, a show of hands...

- ▶ How many of you are from:
 - Public Institution?
 - Private Institution?
 - 2-year College?
 - 4-year University?



Institutional Profile

- ▶ 4-year, public university approximately 1-hour north of Houston, Texas
- ▶ Current enrollment of approximately 21,500 undergraduate and graduate students
 - 87 bachelor's degree programs,
 - 56 master's degree programs,
 - 37 graduate certificates, and
 - 11 doctoral programs
- ▶ Classified by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education as a “Doctoral Research University” and a “Community Engaged” University
- ▶ As of Fall 2020 a minority-majority institution; more than 25% of undergraduate students identify as Hispanic/Latinx



NCAA FCS Football ✓
@NCAA_FCS



THE BEARKATS CAPTURE THEIR FIRST FCS CHAMPIONSHIP!!!


@BearsFB defeats No. 1 seed South Dakota State, 23-21, to win their first #FCSChampionship title!!



5:13 PM · May 16, 2021



Let's talk about you

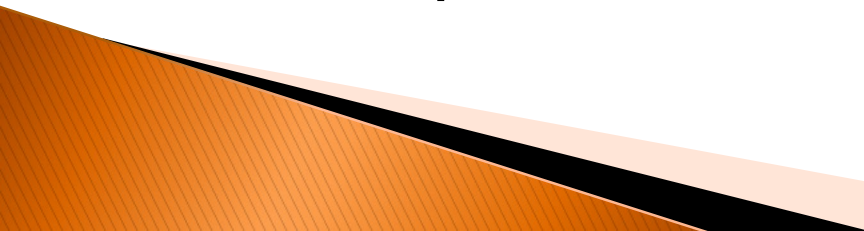
- ▶ How many have a system for evaluating the quality of assessment plans at your institution?
 - ▶ How many are currently planning to start such a process at your institution?
 - ▶ How many don't have such a process, but want it?
 - ▶ Did I miss anyone?
- 

What is Meta-Assessment?



- ▶ Formal evaluation of Unit-level assessment plans
- ▶ Helps to define WHAT the qualities of good assessment are
- ▶ Uses a common rubric that applies to all programmatic assessment plans


Why do it?

- ▶ There was a need to evaluate the quality of the assessment plans
 - ▶ A need to do more than “check the box” – move from a compliance mindset to improvement mindset
 - ▶ Units were telling us they wanted to do better with their assessment plans, but were not receiving clear guidance or feedback on what was expected and what was good assessment
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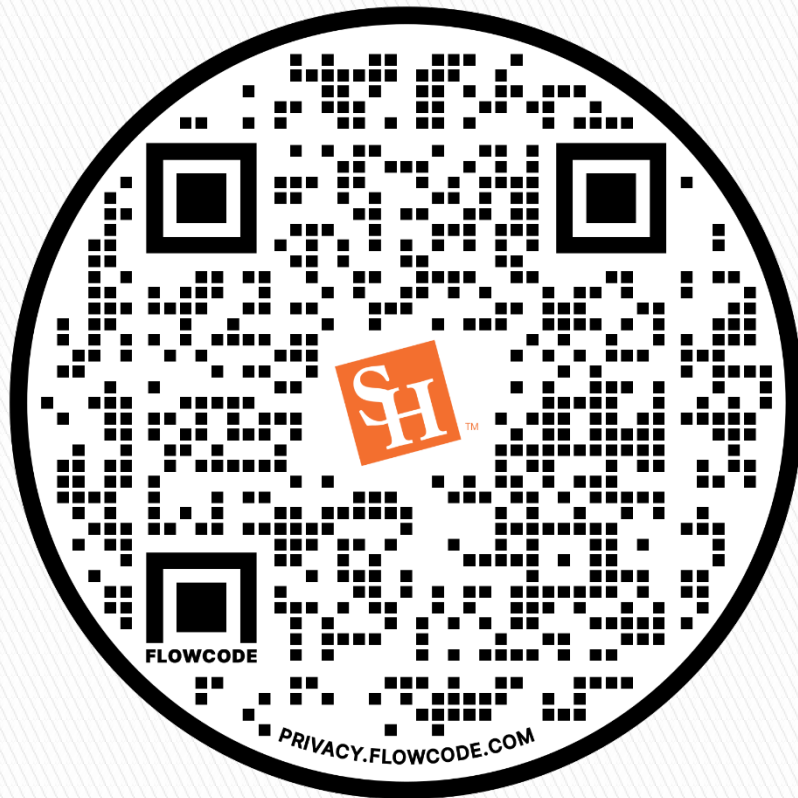
Maturity Takes Time

- ▶ Ad hoc committee of 2 representatives per college created in fall 2013
- ▶ Reviewed assessment plans anonymously starting with the 2012–2013 planning year
- ▶ We will soon collect data from the 2020–2021 planning year
 - 2017–2018 was the first year that all 7 colleges participated in this self-review process

Evolution of a Rubric

- ▶ Original rubric was borrowed from another school, but we changed it to fit our process and terminology
 - ▶ Started as 3–point rating (Developing, Acceptable, Exemplary)
 - ▶ Now a 4–point rating (Developing, Minimally Compliant, Good, Exemplary)
 - ▶ Why did we do this?
- 

Assessment Resources Website



ASSESSMENT RESOURCES

HOME / DEPARTMENTS / ACADEMIC PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT / ASSESSMENT



The Office of Academic Planning and Assessment provides several tools for faculty and staff to help in creating and updating assessment plans for both academic and non-academic units across campus. Visit the links below to help guide you, but do not hesitate to contact our office for personalized training or assistance.

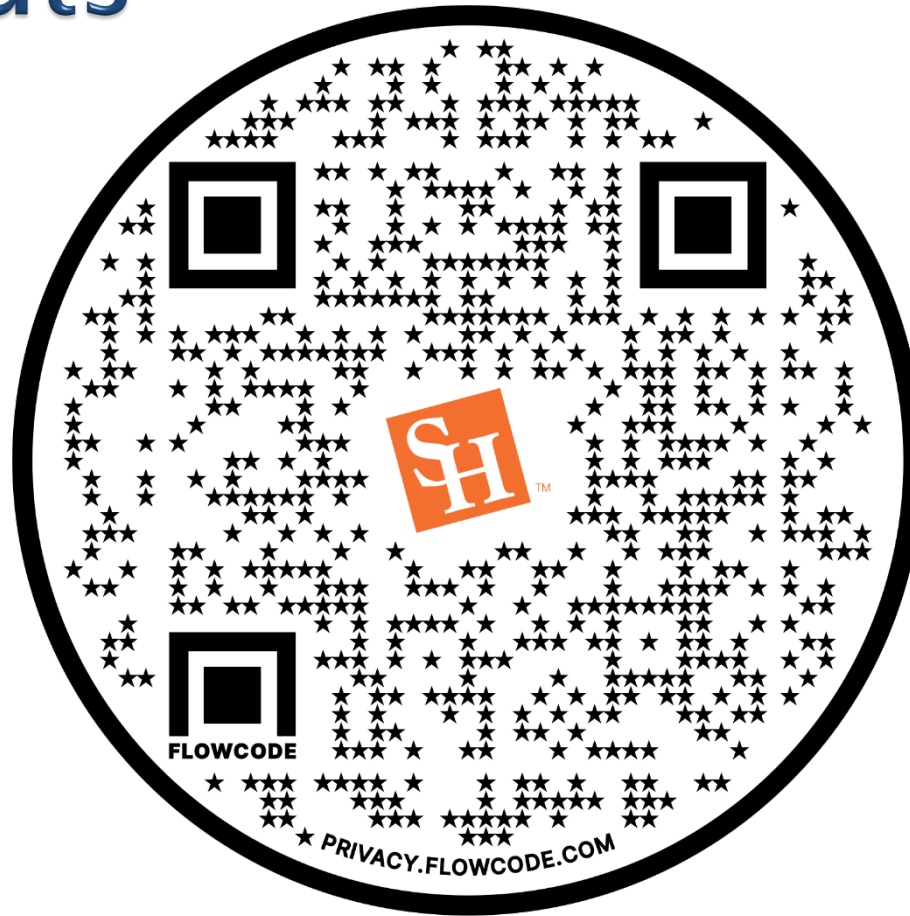
- Read about our journey to becoming an Excellence in Assessment Designee:
 - [Assessment Update Issue 32:1, January/February 2020](#)
- Visit our YouTube [channel](#) where you will find the following helpful training videos:
 - [Accessing Anthology Planning at Sam Houston State University](#)

Academic Planning and Assessment

- Home
- About Us
- Accreditation
- Assessment
- Assessment Overview
- Anthology Planning
- Core Curriculum Projects
- Core Assessment Results
- Assessment Resources
- Assessment Mini-Grants
- Administrative Program Review

<https://bit.ly/shsu-ar>

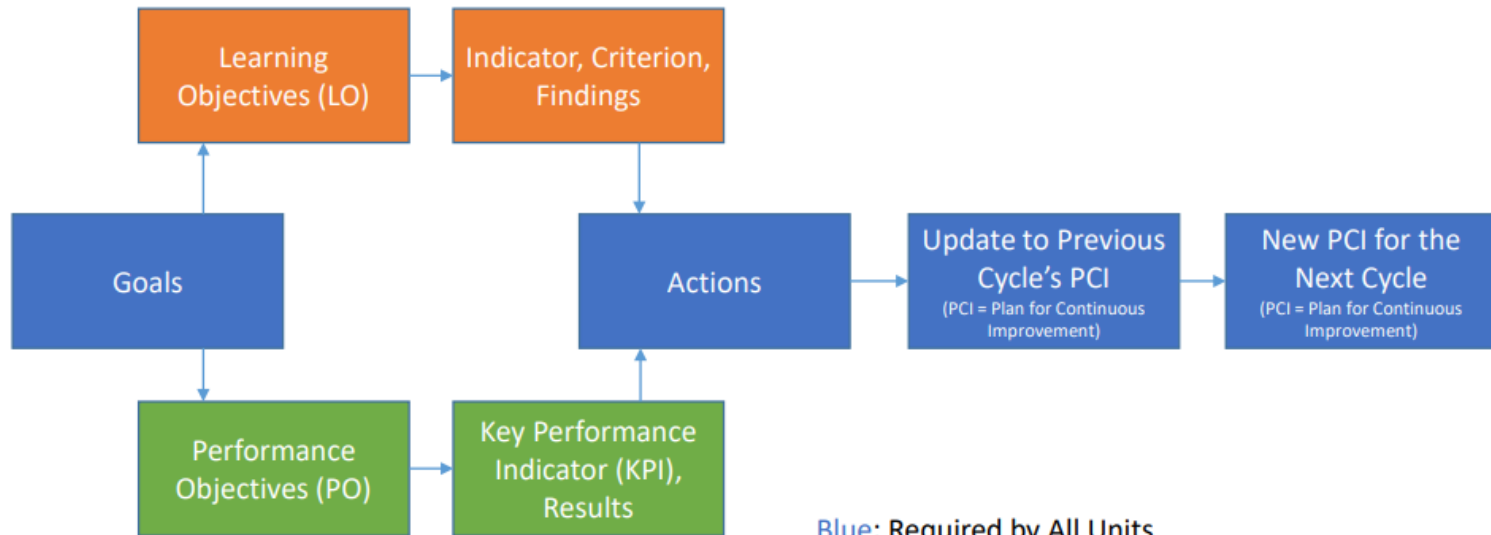
Handouts



<https://bit.ly/sh-meta>

Assessment Plan Elements

Office of Academic
Planning and Assessment



Blue: Required by All Units

Orange: Required by Degree Programs, and Optional for Academic Support, Student Support, and Administrative Support Units

Green: Required by Academic Support, Student Support, and Administrative Support Units, and Optional for Degree Programs

How it started...

Office of Academic
Planning and Assessment

Rubric for Evaluating Annual Assessment Plans

Program/Unit Name: _____

Assessment Cycle: _____

Overall, this plan is:	<i>Developing</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Exemplary</i>
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Goals: Broadly stated intention, aspirations, or ambitions. Goals need not be directly measurable.

Developing	Acceptable	Exemplary
<ul style="list-style-type: none">None entered; or are vague, unclear, or incompleteAren't appropriate to the program/aren't relevant to its mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">At least one enteredOutlines in broad terms what is to be accomplishedMost are appropriate for the program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reasonable number enteredAppropriate for the program and clearly align to the goals of the college/divisionSupporting documents provided, when appropriate

Notes:

How it's going...

Meta-Assessment Rubric for Evaluating Annual Assessment Plans

Program/Unit Name: _____

Assessment Cycle: _____

Overall, this plan is:	<input type="radio"/> <i>Developing</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Minimally Compliant</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Good</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Exemplary</i>
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Goals: Broadly stated intentions, aspirations, or ambitions. Goals need not be directly measurable.

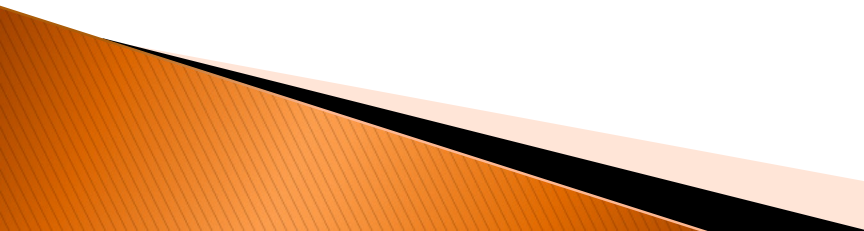
<input type="radio"/> Developing	<input type="radio"/> Minimally Compliant	<input type="radio"/> Good	<input type="radio"/> Exemplary
<input type="checkbox"/> None entered; or <input type="checkbox"/> So vague or incomplete that it's unclear what is to be accomplished	<input type="checkbox"/> At least one entered <input type="checkbox"/> At least one provides enough detail to see how the Goal relates to the purpose of the unit	<input type="checkbox"/> More than one entered, BUT don't address the full purpose of the unit <input type="checkbox"/> Provide enough detail to see how the Goals generally relate to the purpose of the unit	<input type="checkbox"/> More than one entered, AND address the full purpose of the unit <input type="checkbox"/> Clearly articulate how the Goals relate to the purpose of the unit <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting documents provided, when appropriate

Notes:

Current Process

- ▶ All colleges participate annually
 - 264 academic units
 - Degree programs, certificates, stand-alone minors, centers, departments
- ▶ Kick-off in mid-October
 - Prior year assessment cycle closes Oct. 1st
 - Report template, rubric, OAPA-normed reviews sent to colleges

Current Process

- ▶ College meta-assessment committees review plans
 - Each college has its own process
 - Faculty- and college-led
 - ▶ Report from each college and rubrics due back to OAPA late March
 - Report: methodology, plan for sharing rubrics with departments/programs, strengths, weaknesses, strategies to address weaknesses, training and resources needed
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Current Process

- ▶ Enter rubric results into an excel spreadsheet
- ▶ Quantify rubric results to identify areas of and for improvement
 - Actions and Plan for Continuous Improvement needed the most improvement
 - OAPA implemented changes to Anthology Planning in 2020–2021 to assist with these elements
- ▶ Choose plans for OAPA to norm/calibrate during summer

Quantified Results: Then and Now

Overall for All Colleges 2014–15	Overall	Goals	Objectives	Indicators	Criterion	KPIs	Findings/KPI Results	Actions	Plan for Continuous Improvement Update	Current Plan for Continuous Improvement
Developing	47.24%	22.05%	21.26%	31.31%	38.14%	28.26%	36.22%	54.33%	38.21%	59.06%
Acceptable	43.31%	64.57%	62.20%	60.61%	51.55%	50.00%	49.61%	38.58%	54.47%	38.58%
Exemplary	9.45%	13.39%	16.54%	8.08%	10.31%	21.74%	14.17%	7.09%	7.32%	2.36%

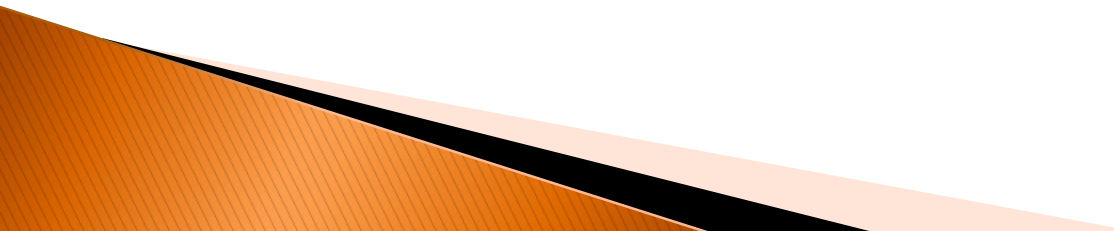
Overall for All Colleges 2019–20	Overall	Goals	Objectives	Indicators	Criterion	KPIs	Findings/KPI Results	Actions	Plan for Continuous Improvement Update	Current Plan for Continuous Improvement
Developing	21.25%	5.63%	8.13%	21.48%	15.15%	4.76%	21.29%	34.38%	24.05%	26.42%
Minimally Compliant	25.63%	22.50%	27.50%	37.78%	28.79%	38.10%	23.23%	31.25%	33.54%	28.93%
Good	42.50%	53.75%	45.63%	31.11%	44.70%	41.27%	38.06%	28.75%	29.75%	37.74%
Exemplary	10.63%	18.13%	18.75%	9.63%	11.36%	15.87%	17.42%	5.63%	12.66%	6.92%

Where to next?

- ▶ Introduce meta-assessment to Divisions
 - 76 non-academic units in 6 divisions
- ▶ Urge Colleges to conduct meta-assessment during summer to provide formative feedback
 - 1 college already doing this, 2 more working on it
- ▶ Rubric revisions
 - Current rubric was last updated in 2017
 - Meta-assessment reviewers do not consistently fill it in correctly

In Conclusion

This process is about
making assessment
meaningful and positive!



Questions?



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