

Name of Committee: **Student Learning Assessment Council**

Committee Chair: Assistant Provost for Institutional Research & Assessment

Statement of Council Interests:

The rationale for the council's structure and charge is as follows:

- Data based improvement of student learning is primarily the responsibility of the faculty and is essential to Emporia State University's sustainability.
- The student learning assessment plan is dynamic and requires timely adaptation to an ever-changing higher education environment. Revisions to the plan are recommended by the council based upon input of the deans, department chairs, and faculty, and approved by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and acknowledged by the Faculty Senate.
- External accountability measures continue to transition toward leveraging financial resources based upon institutional performance. These changes, occurring at both the state and federal levels, link student performance measures for retention, completion, and student success with KBOR Performance Agreements and Federal Title IV funding.
- Transition to the Higher Learning Commission Pathways reaccreditation model requires a continuous cycle of assessment, evaluation, and reporting of student learning across the institution.
- Emporia State University must evidence the alignment between student learning and mission fulfillment including contributions to State of Kansas initiatives.

Purpose of the Council:

- The Assistant Provost leads the council in articulating the student learning assessment plan while building assessment capacity and best practices within the campus community.
- The Council shares responsibilities for keeping the campus community informed of assessment best practices, and both internal and external accountability requirements.
- The Council provides the leadership to implement the student learning assessment plan for each representative campus entity.
- The Council promotes an institution-wide culture of assessing student learning and makes assessment plan change recommendations to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- Let it be acknowledged that student learning outcomes assessment is not a review of faculty performance, but a mechanism for informing operational units, departments, and programs on performance of their curricular and co-curricular programs for the purpose of continuous improvement of the student learning experience.

### Responsibilities of the Council:

Under the direction of the Assistant Provost, the Student Learning Assessment Council provides leadership for coordinating and implementing a sustainable institution-wide plan for the assessment and evaluation of student learning:

- The council is responsible for operationalizing the assessment plan and organizing the use of data to inform improvement in student learning.
- The assessment plan measures the extent to which Emporia State University fulfills its mission and strategic plan.
- The assessment plan meets external accountability requirements for accreditations, State of Kansas and KBOR regulations, and Federal legislative mandates.
- The assessment plan identifies and recognizes Emporia State University's unique and substantial contributions to student learning.
- The assessment plan reporting structure insures continuous systemic collection, evaluation, reporting, and use of data for improving student learning and enriching the student educational experience.
- The assessment plan reporting structure aligns course, departmental, and college reporting of student learning as it relates to fulfillment of the strategic plan and institutional mission.
- The assessment plan reporting structure aligns the data collection, evaluation, and reporting of student learning with external accountability requirements including the Kansas Legislature, Kansas Board of Regents, the Higher Learning Commission, and other external accountability and accrediting entities.

### Structure and Frequency of Meetings and Planning Sessions:

- Monthly meetings are held throughout the year, special meetings may be requested by council membership.
- The council membership is large, thus additional small group meetings may be appropriately scheduled to address isolated issues.
- Retreats and planning sessions will most likely occur during the summer term and/or prior to the start of the fall and spring terms.
- Retreats are a foundational part of sharing knowledge and planning assessment activities and can be requested by the membership.

Council Reports to:  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Minutes published:  
Office of Institutional Research & Assessment website  
Electronic distribution to:

1. The President
2. The Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
3. The Faculty Senate Office
4. All Chairs, Deans, and Directors
5. The Chair of the Committee on Campus Governance

The committee membership is determined by position appointment and is considered a part of appointment responsibilities.

Membership:

**Assistant Provost for Institutional Research & Assessment – Council Chair**

**Teacher’s College - Department Chairs**

Counselor Education

Elementary Education, Early Childhood, &  
Special Education

Health, Physical Education & Recreation

Instructional Design & Technology

Psychology

School Leadership/Middle & Secondary

Teacher Education

Associate Dean

**School of Business - Department Chair**

Associate Dean

**Liberal Arts & Sciences - Department Chairs**

Art

Biological Sciences

Communication & Theatre

English, Modern Languages & Journalism

Interdisciplinary Studies

Mathematics & Economics

Music

Physical Sciences

Nursing

Social Sciences

Sociology, Anthropology, & CDS

**General Education - Associate Dean of LAS**

**Dean of Students - Student Affairs**

**School of Library & Information Management - Associate Dean**

**University Libraries & Archives**

**Honors College – Associate Provost**

**Dean of International Education - Student Affairs**

**Intensive English Program**

**Chair of the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee**