

DRAFT

Institutional Effectiveness Assessment Policy at ESF

Assessment is an integral part of ESF's commitment to the continuous improvement of all functions that contribute to fulfilling the institution's mission -- "to advance knowledge and skills to promote the leadership necessary for stewardship of both the natural and designed environments."

Assessment specifically measures success in meeting defined goals at the institutional and administrative/academic unit levels. Unit level goals should be directly linked to and support the larger institutional goals to ensure that all campus elements are working with common purpose.

Assessment results should be obtained and evaluated through thoughtfully planned processes. They should be used to develop annual work plans that move the institution forward in meeting its mission and goals.

As a research university, in which objective empirical observations are valued as the foundation of knowledge, we recognize that data-based assessment is necessary for self-understanding and advancement, and thus essential for the growth and vibrancy of the institution.

At ESF the following specific statements guide our efforts.

- ❖ All administrative units shall have a mission statement, goals, outcomes and a plan to assess them.*
- ❖ All assessment plans shall conform to Middle States Higher Education Commission standards.*
- ❖ All assessment plans shall conform to the Mission and Goals of the SUNY-ESF strategic plan.*
- ❖ All administrative units shall articulate assessment efforts will be reviewed annually. It is expected that data collected, assessments conducted, response to assessments, and adjustments to assessment plans will be discussed annually with the respective Vice Presidents overseeing each unit.*
- ❖ All assessment plans and results shall be made publicly available on the ESF assessment web page.*

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