

Below is the final, agreed to IE rationale statement to appear on the IE web page at Lynchburg College.

The Lynchburg College mission centers on students and student learning. As part of this focus, the Institutional Effectiveness Committee serves as a gathering point for assessment materials that measure learning outcomes and enable the College to improve student learning. Educational content and students change, therefore, it is necessary to engage in a regular cycle of assessment activities and evaluation of assessment results in order to be fully effective in our mission.

By:

1. Establishing a written mission or purpose.
2. Writing the expected outcomes or objectives based on mission.
3. Determining the criteria for success for each outcome (objective).
4. Identifying measures and measurement strategies for each outcome or objective. Multiple measures are appropriate.
5. Using the measures to assess student performance / unit performance.
6. Analyzing the findings (assessment data) in reference to the established criteria for success.
7. Discussing and sharing results with program/departmental members to interpret findings.
8. Creating action plans to effect improvements.
9. Including resource needs from action plans in budgeting prioritization.
10. Implementing action plans; repeat steps 5 – 10 annually, review steps 1 – 4 periodically.

These assessment results enable us to demonstrate our on-going commitment to improved learning outcomes.

The Institutional Effectiveness Committee, January 15, 2010