# National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment

Making Learning Outcomes Usable & Transparent

Excellence in Assessment Certification Bob Awkward, Director of Learning Outcomes Assessment January 19, 2017

#### What is Excellence in Assessment?

- Recognizes exemplary colleges and universities that:
  - Successfully integrate assessment practices across campus
  - Provide evidence of student learning outcomes to stakeholders
  - Utilize assessment results to guide decision making and improve student performance

## Why Do Excellence in Assessment?

- Creates national recognition for institutions
- Serves as a guidepost for other campuses
- Provides opportunities to demonstrate concrete examples of good assessment work

## NILOA Transparency Framework



## Application Process (due April 14)

- ▶ 1. Letter from senior campus leadership
- 2. A completed campus contacts form
- 3. An annotated lists of individuals and groups engaged in assessment across the campus
- 4. Application narrative (2,000 to 3,000 words) addressing the Transparency Framework as well as a reflection and growth/improvement plan

### What Do You Receive?

- Excellence Designees are institutions demonstrating strong leadership and commitment to building or re-building a culture of evidence-based decision-making centered on the use of campus-level assessment results.
- Sustained Excellence Designees are institutions who have maintained and/or evolved their integrated campus-level student learning outcomes assessment over a period of five (5) or more years.

### What Do You Receive?

- Designees receive a commemorative plaque
- And a certificate and a logo that can be used by the institution to demonstrate their achievement and commitment to student learning outcomes assessment.
- Designations are announced in August following the application cycle and awarded for a five year period
- Institutions may re-apply to extend the recognition beyond five years.

#### Who Has Received This Designation?

- Cameron University, Lawton (SW), Oklahoma
- Capella University, Minneapolis, MN
- Community College of Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD
- Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, IN
- Kansas State University, Kansas, KS
- Mills College, Oakland, CA
- Mount St. Joseph University, Cincinnati, OH
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN
- Wisconsin University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI
- Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

# Closing

- How Consonant is this with Current Campus Practice?
- Informal Survey Responses:
  - Berkshire Community College
  - Fitchburg State University
  - Framingham State University
  - Massachusetts Maritime Academy
  - Massasoit Community College
  - University of Massachusetts Lowell

### Task Force Reflections

- What do you think?
- Is this an idea whose time has come?
- Present this to Amcoa and urge their participation?

