Questions for departmental discussions around assessment

Questions can be adapted to course-, service-, program-, and institutional levels.

Responses need to be realistic and actionable.

I. First selection

SLO/SAO data validation
1. Are the (a) SLO/SAOs, (b) methods, and (C) learning opportunities/scaffoldings appropriate for the course/service?
2. How does your own practice resonate with our institutional data analysis?
3. What is missing in your analysis and/or institutional analysis that we should explore further?

SLO-PLO linkage
4. What do our SLO results tell us about our program (i.e., gains, gaps, needs for adjustments)?
5. Which results should we focus on to improve as a program?

II. Other alternatives:

Current practices
6. How is what we do aligned with our outcomes?
7. How and why we teach or provide services in a certain way?
8. How does our SLO/SAO data analysis inform our practice?
9. Why were the results different from or the same as what we foresaw?

Curriculum map
10. Are the students completing lower level courses prepared for the upper level courses?
11. Course Y and Z all address PLO 1. Do they complement each other (e.g., SLO, scaffolding) or are there overlapping components?
12. How do SLOs in different disciplines relate to PLOs?
13. What courses should student take before they take X course?

Assessment plans
14. What can we do to get better results (or results up to the desired level)?

Metzler's Assessment 2.0 Model (2018): Answer within 15 minutes.
15. What is the most important learning you hoped to see in your course this semester?
16. Based on the student work you've seen, what have been the greatest gains in student learning this semester?
17. And the biggest gaps in student learning (i.e., what do you wish students had learned better)?
18. How do you think students might have been better prepared when they entered your course—what knowledge, skills, or attitudes did they need more of?
19. Based on your observations, what do students still need to learn or improve upon as they exit your class?

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