

## What's New?

### Great News! LSC Passes SACSCOC Standard for SLO/PLO Assessment!

Strategic Planning and Assessment has been informed that Lone Star College has successfully passed the SACSCOC 5<sup>th</sup> Year review in the area of Institutional Effectiveness. This is quite an accomplishment given that this standard is cited for non-compliance for 5<sup>th</sup> Year review at half of the colleges.

Many, many people contributed to this victory, from faculty to administrators, staff, and even students. This is truly a "Better Together" moment for us. Thank you, All!

It is worth noting that SACS IE Standard focuses on assessing and improving student learning, which in turn helps shape the future of our students and community for generations to come. Congratulations!

### The January issue of SPA Newsletter features the following:

- ★ **Deadlines (ACE and SLO/PLO)** – We remind you of the deadlines for ACE and SLO/PLO. Please schedule your team meetings, open labs, consultation, trainings and presentations with the SPA team (contact [Jinhao.Wang@Lonestar.edu](mailto:Jinhao.Wang@Lonestar.edu)). Check out our [IE website](#) for new support tools.
- ★ **IE Success Stories** -- This issue will feature LSC-UP IE Success Stories.
- ★ **A Helpful List of Recommendations Based on SLO/PLO Data**– We are providing examples of academic discipline and workforce program SLO/PLO recommendations/improvements by category again to give you ideas about how to complete your closing-the-loop reports for Fall 2017 SLO assessment.

## ACE Deadlines and Learning Outcomes (SLO/PLO)

Below are the deadlines for ACE and Learning Outcomes. All dates follow the standard ACE and SLO Calendars except those for LSC-Kingwood. As always, the SPA team is here to support your IE efforts with open labs, team meetings, trainings, and consultation.

### ACE (For all except LSC-Kingwood):

**February 15:** Mid-Year Update - All information up to and including "Mid-Year Progress Report" and "Status" dropdown

### ACE (LSC-Kingwood)

**Spring Term:** New ACE Plans for 2017-18 (Given the circumstances, completion of ACE closing-the-loop reports will not be expected.) The SPA team can work with the campus in the Spring to document some of the things that were done to keep the doors open).

### SLO Assessment:

**February 28, 2018:** Fall 2017 SLO Closing the Loop reports due in Compliance Assist Note: Please include the online and dual credit SLO assessment results and recommendations in your reports.

**March 23, 2018:** Section Selection e-Form for Spring 2018 assessed courses should be checked.

# ACE Form Completion Reminder

Please do not forget to complete the two dropdowns new to this year's form asking you to identify which "Institutional Initiative" your objective supports and which "Core Metrics" your objective contributes to directly, or indirectly. Note that "Not Applicable" is an option. If you have any questions, please contact us.

The dropdowns are near the top of the ACE form directly below the dropdowns for choosing which LSC Strategic Goal and LSC Strategic Objective (see screenshot).

Institutional Initiatives

Core Metrics

## IE Success Stories from Across the Campuses

During the academic year 2015-16, Lone Star Colleges across the system implemented numerous initiatives to support LSC strategic goals and to promote student success and community success.

This issue of the SPA Newsletter is highlighting 5 of LSC-UP's IE Success Stories based on 5 Exemplary ACE Reports:

- **Office of the President:** Doubling the Number of Degrees and Certificates Awarded
- **Division of Math and Sciences:** Creating a Science Hotspot to Assist Students and Promote Faculty Collaboration
- **Division of Business, Engineering, and Technology:** Increasing Course Success Rate by Promoting Learning-Centered Pedagogy and Using Open Labs.
- **Division of Liberal Arts:** Increasing Course Success Rate by Promoting Active Learning Strategies
- **Office of Admissions and Outreach:** Increasing Hispanic Students' Enrollment

Link for detailed stories:

[http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/institutionaleffectiveness/UP\\_IESuccess%20Story-2015-16-v2.pdf](http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/institutionaleffectiveness/UP_IESuccess%20Story-2015-16-v2.pdf)

# Examples of Learning Outcomes Recommendations

Below is a categorized list of recommendations based on the 2016-2017 course and program level learning outcomes data. This list can be used as a set of examples for ...

- ✓ faculty making recommendations for improvement when they submit learning outcome assessment data;
- ✓ disciplines, programs, and curriculum teams when making recommendations to improve their departments and programs.

## Examples of Improvement Recommendations by Category

Change Categories	Examples
<b>Instructional Changes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gave real world examples of how engineers use freehand sketching;</li> <li>• Incorporated new interactive learning activities;</li> <li>• Engaged students using teamwork activities;</li> <li>• Increased the number of critical thinking and problem solving assignments;</li> <li>• Invited guest speaker to talk to the graduating class.</li> </ul>
<b>Curricular Changes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopted a more functional curriculum;</li> <li>• Incorporated nursing competencies into clinical and simulation environment;</li> <li>• Selected new textbook;</li> <li>• Redesigned assignments to support active instruction;</li> <li>• Redirected focus on advanced math instead of on basic math.</li> </ul>
<b>Learner Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty met with students to provide one-on-one help;</li> <li>• Faculty members mentored students who were at risk of failing;</li> <li>• Provided students with videos on study skills;</li> <li>• Incorporated time management skills in clinical courses;</li> <li>• Implemented Early Alert for all courses.</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment Changes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aligned assessment questions with class assignments;</li> <li>• Incorporated more pre and post assessment of information related to learning outcomes;</li> <li>• Increased the number of questions for the exam;</li> <li>• Presented the assessment rubric to students prior to assessment;</li> <li>• Revised assessment instrument.</li> </ul>
<b>Faculty Prof. Dev.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoted faculty communication between campus and centers to align methods of instructional delivery;</li> <li>• Utilized departmental meetings and Adjunct Faculty Orientation to emphasize the importance of learning outcome assessment and continuous improvement;</li> <li>• Invited Adjunct Faculty to departmental meetings;</li> <li>• Faculty created a repository of teaching and assessment materials to share within the faculty online community group;</li> <li>• Faculty met once a week to discuss classroom strategies and share ideas.</li> </ul>
<b>Others</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sought input from industry on improving the program;</li> <li>• Recognized students' service learning hours on the transcripts;</li> <li>• Placed more emphasis on not enrolling at risk students in half an hour class;</li> <li>• Used small class size to intensify faculty and student interaction;</li> <li>• Moved the class to morning class time.</li> </ul>

Sources: AY 2016-17 Learning Outcome Assessment Reports stored in Compliance Assist

# SPA Online Tools and Resources

Strategic Planning and Assessment Website: <http://www.lonestar.edu/SPA.htm>

IE Website: <http://www.lonestar.edu/institutional-effectiveness.htm>

ACE Handbook: <http://www.lonestar.edu/images/ACE-Handbook-LSC-2016-Final1.pdf>

SLO Website: <http://www.lonestar.edu/student-learning-outcomes.htm>

SLO Handbook: <http://www.lonestar.edu/documents/2-SLO-Handbook-2015-Final.pdf>

SLO/PLO Timeline: [http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/institutionaleffectiveness/SLO-PLO%20Timeline%20\(AY2016-17-18\)-Merged.pdf](http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/institutionaleffectiveness/SLO-PLO%20Timeline%20(AY2016-17-18)-Merged.pdf)

## ★ SPA Team Contact Information

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Strategic Planning & Assessment

### Institutional Effectiveness (IE)

**Strategic Planning & Assessment**

- LSC-Strategic Plan
- Institutional Effectiveness (IE)
- IE Success Stories
- Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)
- Compliance Assist

**What's New?**

A new volume of IE Success Stories based on the AY 2015-16 Annual Cycle of Effectiveness (ACE) Closing-the-Loop Reports is published. This volume of IE Success Stories features five divisions or departments from each LSC campus. Read these stories by clicking on the link below:

[IE Success Stories \(AY 2015-16\)](#)

You may also read the IE Success Stories from the past years by using the link below:

[IE Success Stories \(Past Years\)](#)

**IE Overview**

At Lone Star College, assessment consists of both operational effectiveness and learning effectiveness. To assess the operational effectiveness, all LSC units are engaged in an annual cycle of planning and assessment that involves developing plans for improvement, implementing said plans, collecting data to gauge the extent to which the expected outcomes are achieved, and then using the assessment results for continuous improvement.

An overview of the Annual Cycle of Effectiveness (ACE) is presented below:

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**Committees**

- [SLO Advisory Committee](#)
- [LSC Curriculum Team](#)

**Using Reporting and Analysis to Support Planning, Assessment and a Culture of Inquiry**

**Cascade Reporting Framework**

Level	Core Metric: Course Success Rate		Research Results
	Course Success Rate	Research	
President	Course Success Rate		
VP	Course Success Rate (Overall, Dev Ed, Gateway, and by modalities)		
VPSS	Course Success Rate (by demographic)		
Dean	Course Success Rate (by Subject, Program, or by grade)	Course Success by Pre-reg. Grade What are the success rates by Pre-Reg grade and subject?	Students at Risk: - Math Students earning "C" in Pre-reg
Dev Ed	Course Success Rate Dev Ed (Math, Reading, Writing)	Course Success by Pre-reg. Grade Course Success by Repeater What are the success rates by Pre-Reg grade and subject? What are the success rates for "Repeaters" in "Non-Repeaters"?	Students at Risk: - Repeaters for Dev Ed. courses - Math Students earning "C" in Pre-reg

Culture of Inquiry – increased engagement with data

**Reporting: Data Report E.g. (Course Success)**

Course	Fall Terms		
	2013	2014	2015
Overall			
Modality			
Face-Face			
Online			
Gateway Courses			
Highst, B.A, W			
Highst, B.A, W Online			

  

Course	Fall Terms		
	2013	2014	2015
Dev Ed.			
Math			
Reading			
Writing			
Overall Dev Ed.			

