Assessment Proposal
Academic Affairs Council
February 27, 2006

The Issue:
Over the last several years, most academic programs that have a major (e.g., philosophy) have developed plans for assessing student learning. Many have begun implementing their assessment plans. Every academic program must address how it assesses student learning during its Academic Planning Council (APC) review. Moreover, halfway through the six-year APC review cycle, each academic program that has a major must submit an assessment report to the Assessment Oversight Committee (AOC). The concern is that, in order to insure that assessment results lead to improvements in education, assessment of academic majors must be conducted more than once every three years.

Proposal:
Every academic program that has a major must assess, annually, its graduating seniors. The tools used are the prerogative of the faculty who teach in that program, and may include, but are not limited to: exit interviews, senior portfolios, capstone courses, etc. A faculty member in that program must compile a short report (approximately ½ a page) of the assessment tools used and the assessment results, and submit that report to the department chair. The department chair presents that report during a meeting of the College Council.

The proposal was approved on February 27, 2006.