

## **Arkansas State University College of Education Assessment Plan**

The mission of the College of Education states:

The mission of the College of Education is to generate and disseminate knowledge through teaching, research, and service; and to apply that knowledge to improve education and the quality of life for all individuals in a pluralistic and democratic society. We accomplish this within student-centered, intellectually challenging environments with faculty and staff dedicated to excellence.

The College of Education's assessment system supports our mission by endeavoring to insure quality academic experiences for students, in and outside the classroom.

### **National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Programs**

College of Education (COE) assessment is a continuous process that underlies all excellent programs of teaching and learning. The COE has designed the Teacher Education Assessment Management System (TEAMS) as a systematic process for determining the extent to which the professional education programs address the goals of the Specialty Program Assessment [SPA] standards and our unit assessment goals (conceptual frameworks). Internal and external program assessment data are collected in order to help evaluate the work of the Professional Education Programs. The goal is to direct improvement efforts in order to ensure program quality.

The assessment process for professional education programs within the COE uses multiple pieces of data that are reviewed by program coordinators, department chairs, Program Evaluation Committee and the other committees from the Council of Professional Education (COPE). Data includes both internal and external data. Internal data often includes course embedded assessments, which are aligned with the SPA standards. The data collection is coordinated by the COE Associate Dean with data derived from the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, Professional Education Programs office and the COE dean's office. The process is designed to provide data and information to the appropriate faculty members or committees to make course or program changes.

The Initial Programs Assessment Committee, Advanced Programs Assessment Committee and the Unit Operations Assessment Committee have the responsibility to review data annually. These committees provide annual reviews of this data with the charge or mandate to make an annual report. These reports include areas of strength and/or areas of improvement.

The Head of Unit will provide an annual report of the professional education programs' assessment activities from the previous academic year. The report will be sent to the Professional Education Faculty no later than November 1 of each year.

## **Other Programs**

All other programs within the COE are required to identify program goals and to identify key assessments within their programs, which provide a valid assessment of how well the program is meeting their identified goals. Key assessments are to be assessed using a rubric, which is aligned with the program goals. Course syllabi within a program are required to identify which program goals are taught and measured within the class.

## **New Directions**

Currently, the Program Evaluation Committee exists at the unit level. The Department of Psychology and Counseling, and the Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Special Education have department level program assessment committees. The COE will encourage all departments to implement this model and eliminate the unit level Program Evaluation Committee. This will allow the unit to focus on unit assessment and departments to focus on program assessment. This will eliminate some redundancy and will focus the program assessment at a level that is more in line with a site-based management model.