Turning the Academic Ship: Meeting the Changing Educational Needs of Central Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

A Partnership for Thriving Communities
A 21st-Century Comprehensive University

- Focused Mission/Program Array
- New, high-impact General Education Program
- New Data-Driven Recruitment and Retention Efforts
- New Entrepreneurial Budget Models
- New Educational Partnerships
Assessment of Student Learning

A Partnership for Thriving Communities

UW System Board of Regents

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point
Purpose of Assessment in Higher Education

• Thoughtfully, purposefully, and systematically studying student work to determine if they are gaining essential knowledge and skills

• Evaluating student work within courses is part of the process, but also includes examining student learning across courses, majors, and programs
Impetus for Assessment in Higher Education

• External Accountability
  – Accrediting bodies
  – University/System Boards
  – Parents/Public

• Internal Accountability
  – Serve our students by ensuring they are learning
Approaches to Assessment in Higher Education

- Standardized assessments of student performance
- External review of student work
- Mandated common assessments within and across courses
- Centralized collection of data from many campus sources
Assessment at UW-Stevens Point

• Emphasis on classroom level assessment and evidence-based improvement of teaching and learning
  – Course portfolios
  – Faculty Learning Communities
  – Focus on professional development
Impacting UW-Stevens Point Students

- Strong focus on effective teaching in the classroom
- Brings faculty and staff together to discuss what is and isn’t working for students
- Assessment results lead to direct and swift changes in programming to address the needs of 21st Century students