

What Does It Mean?

Recently, we have been hearing a lot about program review, curriculum mapping, assessment, and accreditation. What does each of these mean to us? How do they affect our work? Here are some explanations:

Program Description: Explains to students what a program of study is about. It informs the student of academic and career options associated with the program.

Program Goals: Describe what we want our students to learn in our programs.

Student Learning Outcomes: Transform program goals into specific student performances and behaviors that demonstrate student learning and skill development of these goals. They are written using measurable outcomes.

Outcomes Assessment: refers to the systematic collection and analysis of information to **improve student learning**. CIE asks faculty to assess their **program** goals for this purpose. Each department assesses one of their program goals on a two-year cycle.

Curriculum Mapping: Is a tool that allows faculty to align courses in their programs to see how they relate to one another and where gaps in learning may exist.

Program Review: Provides an opportunity for faculty to review their programs to ensure their programs are current, and address student and community needs. Presently, each program at Bergen is on a five-year review cycle.

Meta-Analysis of Assessment Reports: Is a holistic evaluation of assessment reports conducted by the Vice-President of Institutional Effectiveness and the CIE Fellows. It allows us all to learn more about the current state of assessment at Bergen.