Q: Why is there a Student Learning Outcomes assessment reporting requirement for departments and academic programs?
A: The implementation of a yearly cycle of university-wide reporting of Student Learning Outcomes reflects Seton Hall’s ongoing efforts to achieve the culture of assessment expected by our accreditors and other external audiences, and that is already taking place at many peer institutions.

Q: How much assessment is required of departments and academic programs for this year?
A: The Student Learning Outcome assessment is of high priority but it should not be daunting for departments and academic programs. Each academic program should identify two of its Student Learning Outcomes for assessment, and plan for a project to be completed this semester that analyzes this selected outcome and provides information to the department for review.

Q: How is our assessment effort to be reported?
A: The assessment effort for this academic year is to be reported to the University Assessment Center by June 13, 2014 by emailing the “UAC 2014 Annual Assessment Plan Report.docx” form and any accompanying documents to assessment@shu.edu. The report form is available on the University Assessment web site, http://www.shu.edu/offices/provost/assessment/

Q: Why assessment of Student Learning Outcomes? Does it work?
A: Departments, programs, and individual faculty already engage in some assessment of what students know, value, and do to help students achieve academic success. By implementing a systematic university-wide reporting of these efforts Seton Hall University provides evidence that our mission and values are realized in our graduating students. In addition to helping the development of our students, assessment of Student Learning Outcomes provides opportunities to improve the quality of programs. A faculty-driven, self-monitoring process of assessment throughout the institution will also provide opportunities to better evaluate our assessment efforts and to establish meaningful, evidence-based assessments.

Q: Is help available?
A: Absolutely. The University Assessment Center is available for assistant at all stages of assessment planning, analysis, and reporting. The center is located in Walsh Library TLTC area, Room 126a and 126b. Contact assessment@shu.edu for an appointment.