Step 3. Sharing Assessment Results

The assessment work is complete. Now it is time to share and discuss the results with your colleagues, identify any steps needed to improve outcomes and implement those steps.

It can be helpful to present the data from assessment graphically. An example from an assessment of Information Literacy is provided below:

Figure 1. Distribution of ratings for each dimension for all 75 documents. Benchmark: to have 80% of students rated at 2 or better for each dimension. Benchmark achieved for dimensions 1 and 4. Approaching benchmark for dimension 2. The most work is needed in dimensions 3 and 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
<th>0 to 0.5 unacceptable</th>
<th>1 to 1.5 unsatisfactory</th>
<th>2 to 2.5 satisfactory</th>
<th>3 to 3.5 proficient</th>
<th>4 advanced/exceptional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Determine extent of info needed</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Access needed info</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Critical evaluation of info</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Effective use of info for purpose</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Ethical use of info</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sharing and discussing assessment results. Share the results with colleagues in whatever way works best for the culture of the department. Some suggestions include:

- Present the assessment plan and discuss the process.
- Present the results, including benchmarks.
- Prepare a summary of preliminary findings and recommendations to initiate the discussion.
- Celebrate achievements.
- Point out challenges identified and discuss the possible origins of those challenges.
  - Discuss the benchmarks. Are the benchmarks reasonable or too ambitious?
  - Discuss the alignment between the work evaluated and the PLO. Are changes needed in the assignment for better alignment? Does the PLO clearly articulate the intended outcome or does it need to be revised?
  - Discuss any deficiencies in the rubric used for the assessment. How can the rubric be improved?
Discuss how the curriculum supports student learning of the dimensions of the PLO. Is sufficient time devoted to the introduction and development of the PLO across the curriculum (the curriculum map can help with this analysis)?

Discuss the placement of the course within the curriculum and the expected roadmap students follow to get this course. Is the pathway defined so that students take courses in the best sequence with minimal gaps between sequenced courses and no concurrent enrollment in courses that should be taken sequentially?

Discuss the content and approach taken in the course. Are students where they need to be to demonstrate the PLO? Is the course either assuming too little or too much of the students? Is better alignment possible through intermediate assignments, additional opportunities for practice, refinement of the work being assessed?

• Present and discuss possible solutions to the challenges identified.
• Create a plan and timeline to implement possible solutions to the challenges, including identifying the people willing to take on the implementation.
• Discuss any recommendations to improve the assessment process going forward.
• Discuss the plan for assessment of the next PLO or the other assessment activity for the next year.

Summarize the assessment work by completing the Assessment Findings report (or your own version of that report). Share it with colleagues and submit it to academic planning (see the templates and submission area on the site this document was found on for the template and submission link).