Program Level Outcome (PLO) Assessment Report Summary

Program Level Outcomes for Computer Science and Information System - Computer Science:

Upon successful completion of the Computer Science and Information Systems—Computer Science Option program, a student should be able to:

1. demonstrate strong interpersonal skills, communicate effectively with technical and non-technical colleagues, and work effectively on a team.
2. design and construct significant computer application(s) using current programming languages and operating systems.
3. describe the functions of a contemporary operating system with respect to convenience, efficiency, and the ability to evolve.
4. demonstrate the ability to evaluate algorithms, select from a range of possible options, provide justification for that selection, and implement the algorithm in programming context.

What we looked at:

In CSS 1, 2A and 3, fall semester 2013, we evaluated the SLOs regarding PLO #2

What we found:

The percentage of students who successfully satisfied the SLO rubric criteria for CSS 1, 2A and 3 were:

- Successful: 79%
- Unsuccessful: 16%
- Incomplete/not turned in: 5%

Students need to be better prepared to individually design and implement programs. The students who performed at the unsuccessful level did not understand the value of designing a program using functions (CSS 1) or objects (CSS 2A).

What our next steps are:

- Assess students frequently using quizzes or short programs to improve independent coding ability.
- Require more programming projects to facilitate practice and repetition in program creation and development.
- More emphasis on functional design.
- Carefully reconsider future offering of program required classes as DE.