Updated Objective 1.2. Verbiage from Susie Brubaker-Cole

Objective 1.2: Provide rigorous and effective undergraduate degree programs.

Indicators of achievement:
1. Percent of programs that have completed full-cycle student learning outcomes assessment.
2. Percent of active programs with completed periodic external program reviews.
3. Percent of Baccalaureate Core categories that have undergone full-cycle student learning outcomes assessment.
4. Participation rates in academic experiential learning — research, internships, service learning, global learning.
5. Alumni satisfaction on value of degree.

Rationale:
Objective 2 encompasses the quality of degree programs that lie at the foundation of OSU’s undergraduate education program. Excellent undergraduate programs produce graduates with the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to contribute productively to professional, civic and personal realms. Full-cycle student learning outcomes assessment (outcomes defined, learning assessed, curriculum improved, cycle repeated) provides a means to evaluate effectiveness. The requisite disciplinary and liberal education knowledge, skills and abilities are captured collectively in the learning outcomes of degree programs and the Baccalaureate Core. Measuring student learning against these established learning outcomes provides evidence of educational program effectiveness. Findings from student learning assessments inform adjustments to curricular design and teaching methods and should lead to student learning improvements over time. All undergraduate programs undergo program review at least once every ten years. As part of this process, external reviewers who are leaders in their fields, provide feedback and recommendations to ensure that programs align with the national state of their disciplines. National research demonstrates positive educational outcomes for students who participate in experiential learning, and OSU academic programs value experiential learning as important opportunities to apply and extend curricular learning to real-world settings and important preparation for post-college challenges. Finally, the perception of the alumni, once they are in a position to reflect on the practical application of their OSU education, is a powerful indicator of program effectiveness.