1: PROJECT GOAL

A: SCTCC's three-year assessment action project will focus on three distinctive yet interconnected areas:
   1. Program Assessment. The purpose is to establish, review or revise program outcomes, measures, and processes for assessment of all SCTCC academic programs.
   2. Capstone Projects. The purpose is to create or document capstone projects and/or capstone courses for all SCTCC degrees.
   3. Culture of Assessment. The purpose is to establish a clearly visible and data driven assessment cycle for the improvement of student learning.

2: REASON FOR UNDERTAKING THIS PROJECT

A: Assessment of student learning has been identified as an ongoing improvement opportunity for SCTCC. This action project will be a vehicle for intentional review of the existing assessment processes employed at the college; best practices will be shared across disciplines and institutionalized within the broad scope of assessment of student learning. To nurture a culture of assessment, this project will focus on creating a system/process that is transparent and illustrates the path SCTCC has taken to understand and improve assessment of student learning. This action project will provide an opportunity to create focused professional development opportunities for faculty with regard to the creation, evaluation, and revision of measurable learning outcomes at the course and program level. We intend to move assessment of student learning to the forefront of the teaching and learning community at SCTCC.

3: ORGANIZATIONAL AREAS AFFECTED

A: Our AQIP assessment action project will provide a broad approach to assessment of student learning across all areas of the college. All college employees play a role in the student learning.

4: KEY ORGANIZATIONAL PROCESSES

A: Assessment of student learning will become integrated into the culture of the college. SCTCC will complete the entire assessment cycle: 1. Specify learning outcomes, 2. Identify measures for student learning outcomes, 3. Gather and evaluate data on student learning, 4. Make and implement changes to the curriculum, 5. Gather and evaluate data to determine if changes were effective.

   Recruitment of students will be improved by adding program outcomes and assessment activities to each program website.

   This project will support the institutional effort to increase student retention by 2%; it is anticipated that the focused assessment of learning will provide insight as to where there may be opportunities for better alignment of program objectives and student expectations.

   Recent legislative changes require that SCTCC evaluate the number of credits included in AAS degrees; this is an opportunity for programs to evaluate/assess the overall content and alignment to industry standards. This mandate will provide the opportunity to engage academic programs in ongoing formal review activities.

   Professional development activities for faculty will be focused on assessment activities, which will bring the assessment process full
### 5: PROJECT TIMEFRAME RATIONALE

#### A:
In order to bring the cycle of assessment, full circle, three years will be necessary for this action project. The first Milestone will be the hosting of our “All College Conversation Day” on February 8, 2013, with a focus on assessment and accountability. The day’s activities will include a facilitated working session with the faculty to write and review program outcomes, discuss capstone projects/classes, and to better understand the full cycle of assessment. This day will focus on assessment of student learning for all areas and staff of the college.

### 6: PROJECT SUCCESS MONITORING

#### A:
SCTCC will utilize the college’s intranet site to post relevant information for access by the greater college community. The project team will manage the content to ensure it is current and relevant. In order to maintain transparency for SCTCC’s processes, program outcomes, assessment efforts, and program successes will be posted on each program website.

### 7: PROJECT OUTCOME MEASURES

#### A:
The success of the action plan will be evidenced by a culture of assessment that is pervasive throughout SCTCC: Active participation by all academic programs in the assessment of student learning and the use of data to make informed decisions regarding changes in academic objectives and curriculum. The Action Project outcomes and measures to determine the success of the project area as follows:

- Program outcomes completed for all college programs.
- Capstone projects/activities and/or classes completed and used as measures of student learning.
- Regular faculty discussions using measures to drive change to curriculum and programs.
- Program outcomes, celebrations of student capstone activities, and clear evidence of student learning will be posted on each program website.