



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  

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**COMMERCE**

## **Department of Institutional Effectiveness and Research**

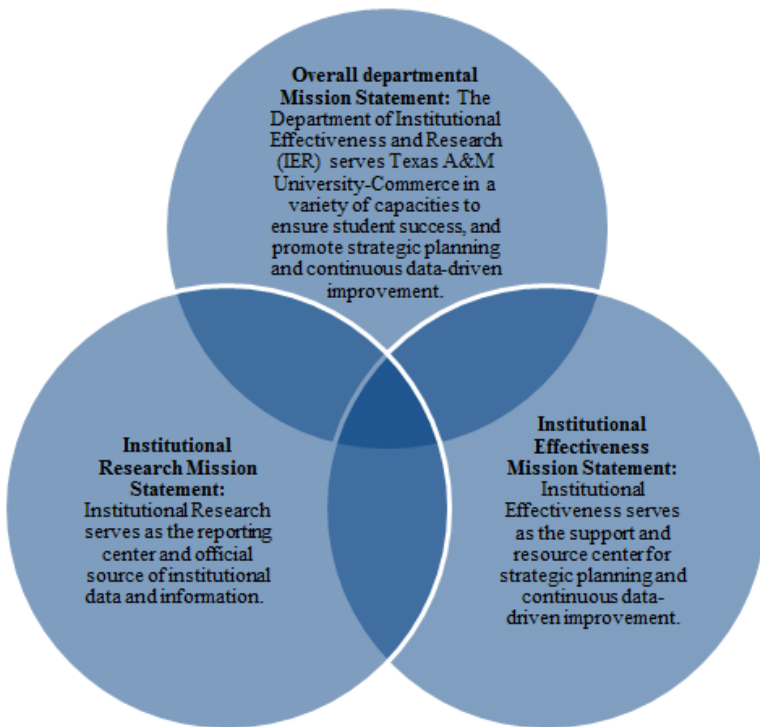
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*The Institutional Effectiveness Process at A&M-Commerce*

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## The Department of Institutional Effectiveness and Research

The Department of Institutional Effectiveness and Research (IER) serves Texas A&M University-Commerce in a variety of capacities to ensure student success and promote strategic planning and continuous data-driven improvement.



### Chief Responsibilities

- Guide faculty and administrators through program approvals
- Assist in efforts to assess student learning
- Guide the accreditation processes for colleges, programs, and the university
- Provide institutional data to decision makers
- Administer university level surveys and interpret results for improvement
- Complete mandatory reporting at the federal, state, and System Office levels
- Conduct research projects in order to assess and diagnose issues for institutional effectiveness and improvement

### Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Area within IER – Planning for Effectiveness

The IER Department supports the engagement of Texas A&M University-Commerce in continuous improvement by serving as the support and resource center for strategic planning and continuous data-driven improvement. One area in which effectiveness is accomplished through our department is in the systematic process of collection, review, and use of data for continuous improvement of student learning and the environment that supports student learning.

## How planning for effectiveness is accomplished – IE Process

Every year, each academic program and divisional support unit engages in institution-wide, ongoing efforts of continuous improvement by identifying expected student learning outcomes and goals, assessing the extent to which these outcomes and goals are achieved, and providing evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of these results. Texas A&M University-Commerce utilizes the Nuventive Improvement Platform to facilitate the collection of annual assessment results.

### Institutional Effectiveness

**Assessment Plans** articulate desired student learning outcomes and goals, describe the methods by which they will be assessed, and set appropriate standards of performance for the coming year.

**Assessment Results** describe the assessment results of the prior year, processes used to analyze collected results, and actions being taken to use the results to seek improvements, as needed.



The annual assessment of student learning outcomes from each academic program and support unit enables A&M-Commerce to make data-driven decisions and to engage in efforts of continuous improvement.

## How planning for effectiveness is accomplished – IE Leadership Team

The IER Department accomplishes planning for effectiveness by overseeing the IE Leadership Team, which facilitates the annual documentation of assessment plans and collection of assessment results. Within each of the 13 colleges and divisions, at least one IE Author has been designated per academic program or support unit to document annual assessment results and assessment plan information on behalf of their program or unit. Each college and division is represented by at least one IE Representative. This IE Representative helps to coordinate the efforts of the IE Authors and provides guidance in the development of student learning outcomes or goals and assessment methods appropriate to the program or unit. The Assessment Plans and Results are entered into the university's selected assessment management system, the Nuventive Improvement Platform, where they are annually reviewed, evaluated for quality on an assessment rubric, and approved both by the IE Representative and the corresponding Direct Supervisor/Department Head. The Dean or Vice President for the respective college or division provides a final review and must approve all reports before their final collection by the IER Department. Within the IER Department, the Institutional Effectiveness Officer provides training and educational resources to all IE Authors, IE Representatives, and reviewing entities to ensure institution-wide effectiveness planning. The IE Leadership Team is overseen by the Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research under the leadership of the Associate Provost and SACSCOC Accreditation Liaison.

