



ARL Bimonthly Report 218 **October 2001**

ARL Learning Outcomes Project Launched

The goal of the Learning Outcomes Project within the ARL New Measures Initiative is to help identify measures that libraries can use to demonstrate their contribution to campus learning outcomes. At a meeting in October 2001, the Learning Outcomes Working Group reported on their data gathering efforts for institutions, accrediting agencies, and other organizations engaged in outcomes assessment and discussed learning outcomes assessment activities conducted on research library campuses.

The group decided to focus on the following activities:

- Identify commonly used learning outcomes from working group campuses, particularly those used for general education requirements, and determine if an instrument could be developed to be used across libraries to assess those outcomes.
- Identify potential national student surveys to which specific library questions could be added and construct those questions for testing at the next survey cycle.
- Develop plans for offering workshops that address both the process for becoming engaged in campus learning outcomes assessment activities as well the specific skills needed to work with faculty on developing learning outcomes for research universities.

Contact Julia Blixrud <jblix@arl.org> for more information about the project.

[▲ Back to top](#)

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<<http://www.arl.org/newsltr/218/outcomes.html>>

[Table of Contents for Issue 218](#)

[Other Current Issues Articles](#) | [Other Measurements of Research Libraries Articles](#)

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