Proposed Process for Updating Course Learning Outcomes

Problem Statement
Well-articulated course learning outcomes (CLO) are needed for all OSU courses so students clearly see what to expect in their courses, and so instructors can assess student learning on specific, measurable outcomes. This is not only in the best interests of students but also aligns well with accreditation standards.

Historically, OSU has not successfully recorded, tracked, or maintained the CLO for our courses. As we continue to expand our offerings on Ecampus and at our various locations/campuses, it is ever more important for us to record and maintain consistent CLO across our different modalities and locations. A review of nearly 50% of all course syllabi on Canvas in AY21 revealed some problems: multiple sections with different CLO, slash courses without distinguishing CLO, missing CLO, and even missing syllabi. In the remainder of this document, we outline a two-year project plan for addressing these problems.

Updating and Recording Course Learning Outcomes
Creating a streamlined process for academic units to update and record their CLO can be done through collaboration between the Curriculum Council, Curriculum Management, and the Office of the Registrar. The following is a proposed structure that allows faculty to make updates to their CLO, have them recorded in CIM, and avoid up to 6000 courses coming to the CC for review, discussion, and approval.

Standards
- The updated CLO align with the existing course name and description; no other changes to a course will be allowed without a formal CIM update.
- The curriculum coordinators in the Curriculum Management office review and evaluate CLO for all courses not already updated in CIM. Their evaluation will entail verification that the CLO:
  1. align with the existing course description and title;
  2. are appropriate to the course level; and
  3. are measurable and assessable.

Scope
Approximately 80% of OSU's 8,000+ courses are course types that require CLO. Of those we estimate 90% (almost 6,000 courses in all) need to have CLO reviewed, and we believe many will need to be updated.

Process
For every applicable course without CLO in CIM, Curriculum Management will gather the syllabi from all sections for one year from Canvas. Curriculum Management then will pull and analyze the CLO from the course syllabi (based on items 1-3 above). Curriculum Management will review the updated CLO and work with the unit as needed to develop CLO that meet all of the review criteria. Any course that does not need additional review through the CC will be added to CIM administratively. Courses that fall outside the standards above will require a change using the CIM workflow.