

## AUTHORS

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# The SEARLE Assessment Framework & Strategy

Student-Centered | Equitable | Authentic | Responsive | Lifelong | Empathetic

## AFFILIATION

Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching

Office of the Provost

Northwestern University



### Northwestern University

Private, select-enrollment R1 university with 21,000 students (8,000 undergraduate and 13,000 graduate students) in the Midwestern region of the United States.

### The Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching

As a unit of the Office of the Provost, we advance the University's priorities of excellent teaching and of its students in a diverse academic community.



### Goal 3.2 Community

Connect educators with fortifying knowledge-sharing communities to identify barriers to student learning and interventions that enable all students to thrive.



### Goal 3.3 University-wide Engagement

Shape the development of authentic, systematized, and sustainable assessment cycles within programs and schools; Advance the institutional assessment strategy towards successful reaccreditation.



### Assessment Cycle

A revised, customized version of the assessment cycle that emphasizes shared university-wide language about assessment processes.



### Searle Center 2030 Strategic Plan

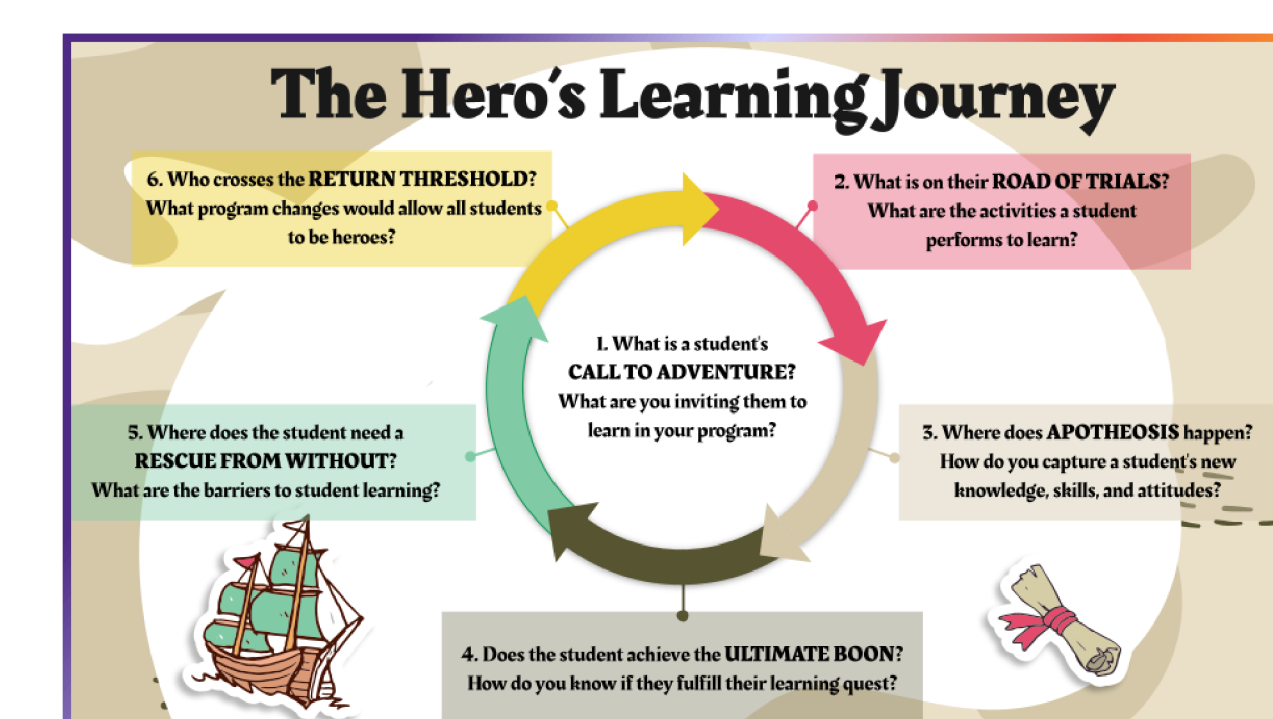
Priority 3: Stimulate Assessment to Drive Substantive Course/Curricular Development



4 Priorities with 4 Goals Each

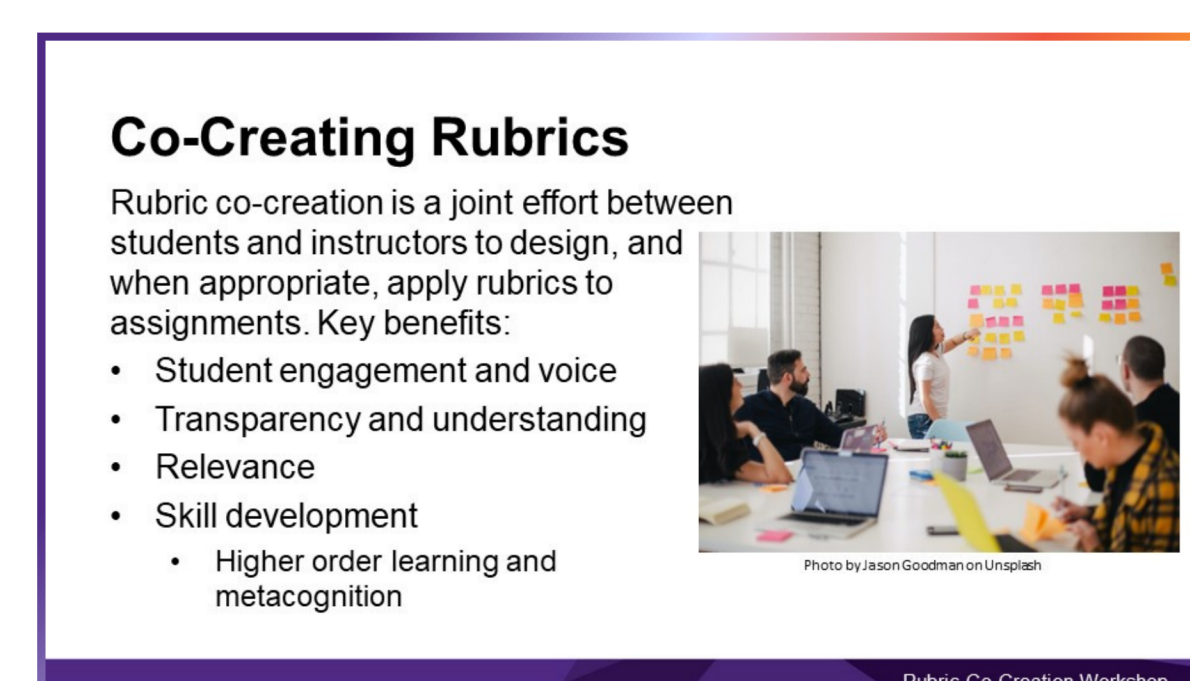
### Centering Student Experience

Workshops on how to translate the assessment cycle into student-centered language.



### Co-creating Rubrics

Consultations and workshops to promote rubric co-creation with students as an equitable assessment practice.



### Modeling Curriculum Mapping

Three types of curriculum map templates for programs to use based on their contexts and priorities.

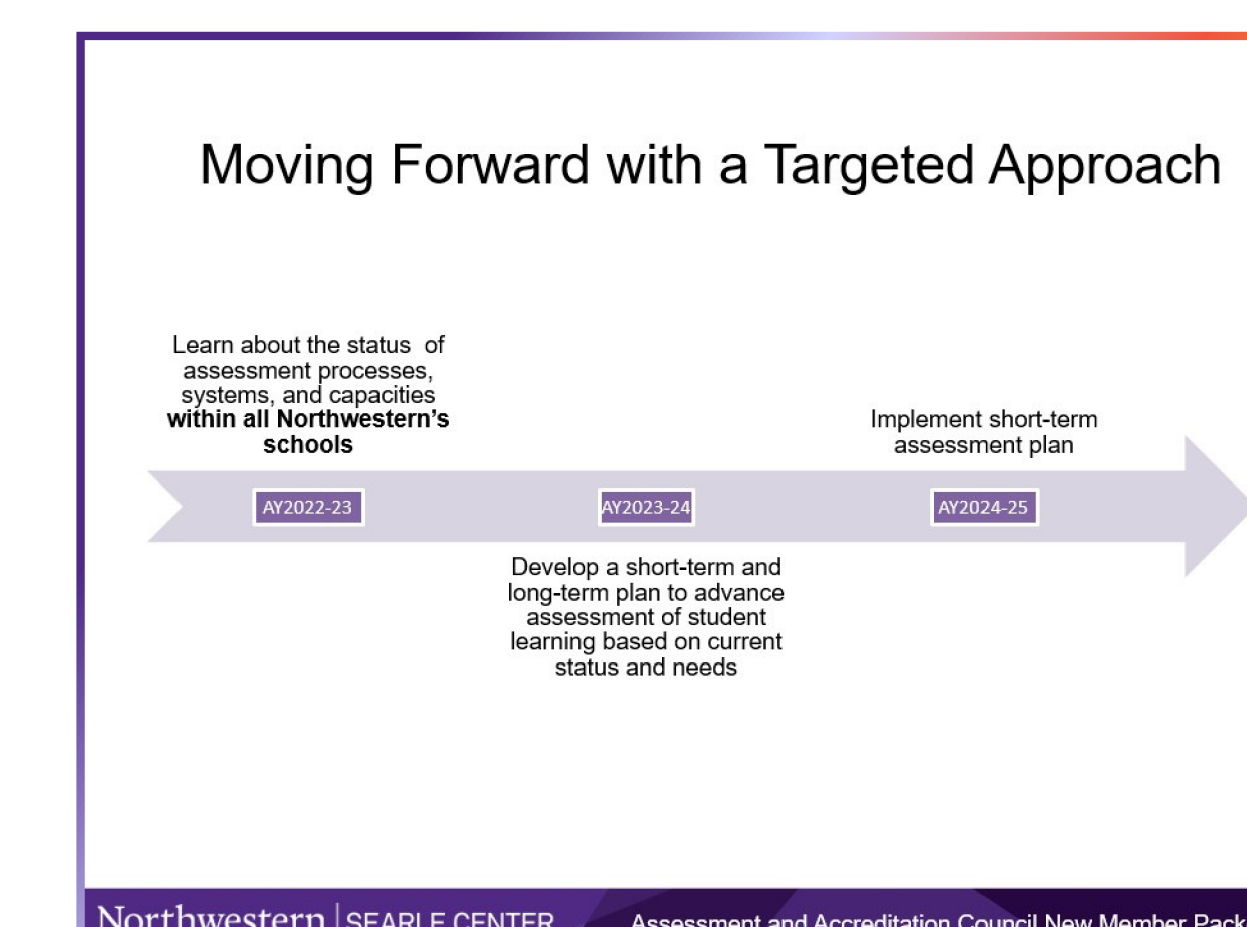
Curriculum maps are visual representations that show the alignment between learning outcomes and program courses or activities.					
Three are different types of curriculum maps. Depending on the purpose, maps are powerful tools for cultivating them designed for:					
Course Program Curriculum Map	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4	Course 5
Program or Major Learning Outcomes	(PLO1)	(PLO2)	(PLO3)	(PLO4)	(PLO5)
Course 1	X				
Course 2		X			
Course 3			X		
Course 4				X	
Course 5					X

Curriculum Map with Skill Level and Endorsement					
Course Program Outcomes	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4	Course 5
Program or Major Learning Outcomes	(PLO1)	(PLO2)	(PLO3)	(PLO4)	(PLO5)
Course 1	R				
Course 2	R	R			
Course 3			R		
Course 4				R	
Course 5					R

Curriculum Map with Skill Level and Endorsement					
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Program or Major Learning Outcomes	(PLO1)	(PLO2)	(PLO3)	(PLO4)	(PLO5)
Course 1	R				
Course 2	R	R			
Course 3			R		
Course 4				R	
Course 5					R

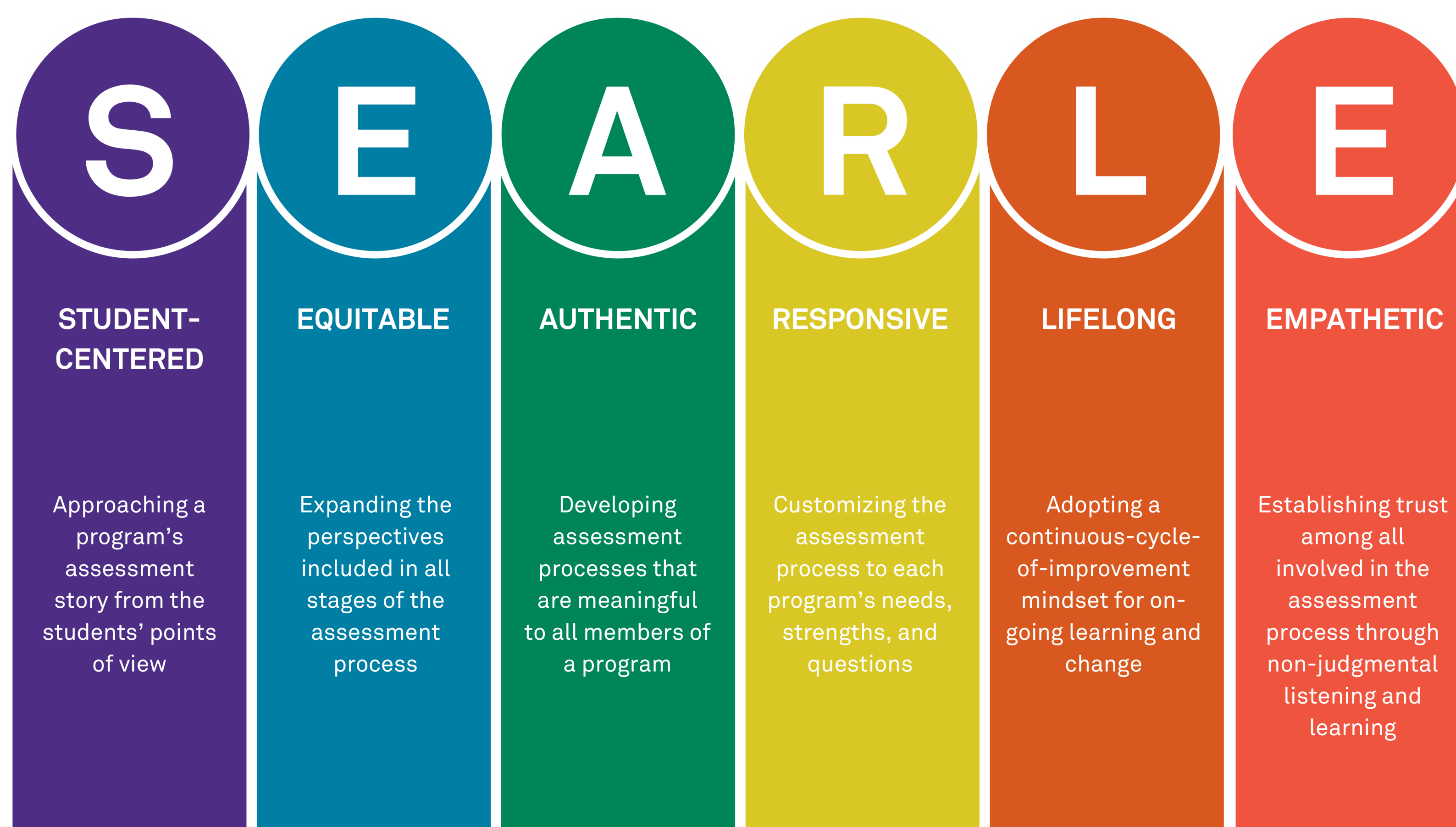


### Assessment and Accreditation Council

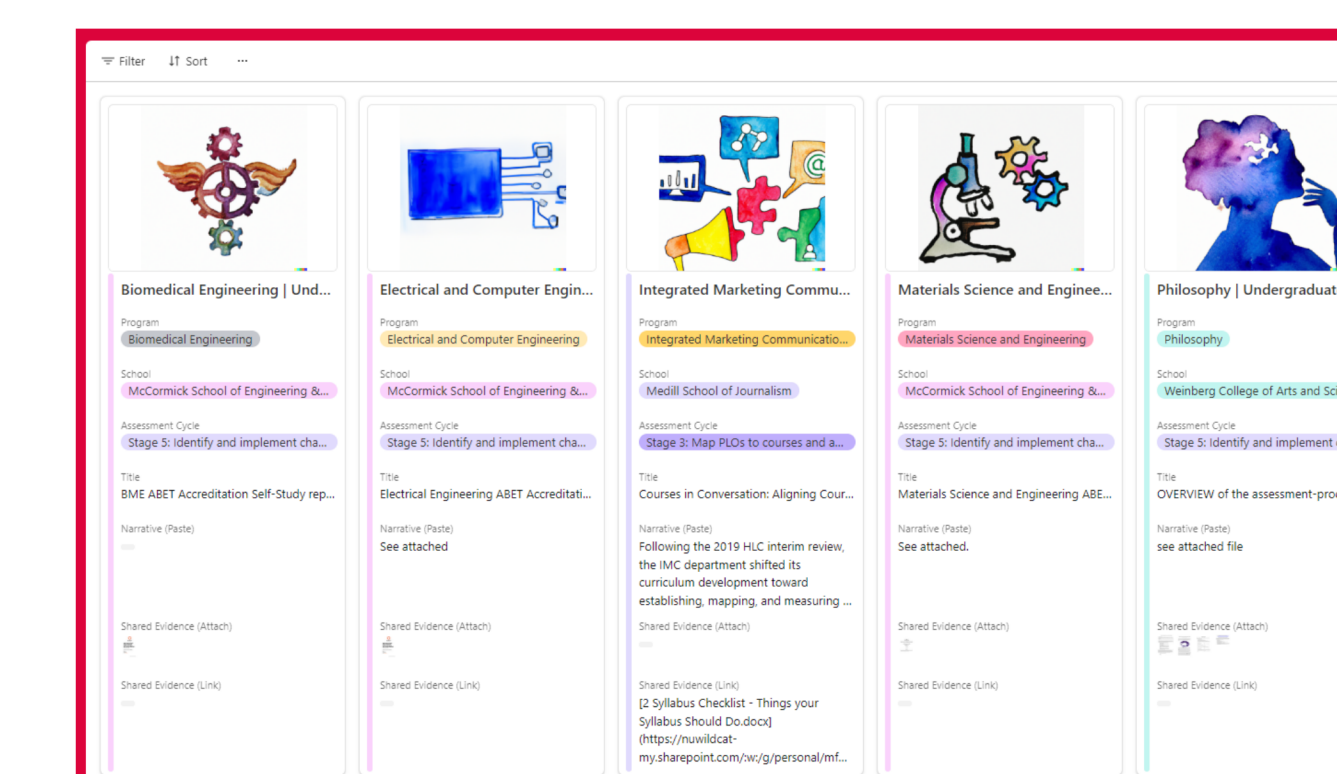
The Council, with representatives from all 12 schools plus faculty senate and key co-curricular partners, is directed by the Searle Center who onboards each new member about our approach.

### The SEARLE Assessment Framework

Dietz, L. and Eskew, L. (2025) "Harmonizing Perspectives." *Transformative Dialogues*. Forthcoming



Learn More about Assessment at the Searle Center!



### Assessment Gallery

A centralized database to collect, share, and celebrate the excellent work programs are doing to improve student learning. Publicly viewable on the Searle website.

