

## The Outcomes Project (TOP) at Waubonsee Community College

# A View from the TOP

## Waubonsee's TOP MEASURE

**Managing Human Interaction:** the ability to make and navigate relationships

**Expanding Knowledge:** the ability to build on one's own knowledge base

**Adapting Concepts:** the ability to build upon a concept

**Shaping the Future:** the ability to use knowledge for change

**Utilizing Facts:** the ability to apply a fact to a new situation

**Reflecting:** the ability to think about one's own thinking and learning

**Expanding Knowledge:** the ability to build on one's own knowledge base

### Inside this issue:

TOP Teaching	1
TOP Web site	1
Outcomes Strategy	2
Contact Us	2

This year, TOP is sponsoring several new events that focus on the integration of outcomes assessment into the teaching and learning process. Because assessing student learning is a vital part of teaching, TOP is sponsoring several events that will examine this connection. These sessions will be sponsored by the CTLT and facilitated by Stacey Randall, Outcomes Assessment Specialist. To register, call ext. 2724 or register online at <http://ctl.t.waubonsee.edu/>.

### Fall TOP Teaching Sessions:

Wednesday, August 31:  
Understanding Outcomes  
2:00-3:00 pm, Collins 227

Friday, September 23:  
Developing Rubrics: Part 1  
2:00-3:00 pm, Collins 227

Tuesday, September 27:  
Developing Rubrics: Part 2  
2:00-3:00 pm, CTLT

Thursday, October 13:  
Understanding Outcomes  
2:00-3:00 pm, Collins 227

Tuesday, October 18:  
Developing a Learning-Centered  
Syllabus  
2:00-3:00 pm, Collins 227

Wednesday, November 2:  
Developing Rubrics: Part 1  
2:00-3:00 pm, Collins 227

Friday, November 4:  
Assessment & Grading  
10:00-11:00 am, Collins 227



Wednesday, November 9:  
Developing Rubrics: Part 2  
2:00-3:00 pm, CTLT

Thursday, November 17:  
Assessment and Grading  
2:00-3:00 pm, Collins 227

Wednesday, December 7:  
Developing a Learning-Centered  
Syllabus  
2:00-3:00 pm, Collins 227

## TOP Teaching Series

## New TOP Web site

Interested in developing an Outcomes Strategy?

Want to learn about tips and tools for assessing student learning?

Looking for examples of rubrics or assignments that have a learning-centered focus?

Then visit the new and improved TOP Web site!

<http://top.waubonsee.edu>

### Learning Fest 2005

TOP and the CTLT would like to thank all of the Waubonsee Community College faculty, staff and administrators who participated in Learning Fest 2005 at Fall Orientation and helped to make it a success!

## What is The Outcomes Project (TOP)?

For more information contact: Stacey Randall, Outcomes Assessment Specialist  
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Extension 2897  
[srandall@waubensee.edu](mailto:srandall@waubensee.edu)  
or visit the TOP Web site at <http://top.waubensee.edu>

*TOP (The Outcomes Project) is a multi-faceted, institution-wide, faculty-driven initiative with a mission to improve the process of assessing student outcomes. The TOP initiative is dynamic in nature with an emphasis on process, rather than a final destination.*

*A commitment to a holistic, cross-disciplinary approach for assessing student outcomes is at the heart of TOP. Early in the project, it was recognized that the traditional general education/programmatic outcomes dichotomy did not provide this holistic approach. Rather, an approach was needed that would integrate the outcomes of the college's varied programs, disciplines and curricula. In a quest for this holistic approach, TOP focused its energies on building a model for outcomes assessment that would provide a unique institution-wide framework with common language. The results were the TOP MEASURE and Waubensee's Outcomes Cycle. We invite you to join us on this journey as we work to improve student learning in all areas of the Waubensee community.*

## Featuring Faculty: Developing an Outcomes Strategy

TOP has been assisting faculty members from around the college with developing Outcomes Strategies for their courses and departments. These Outcomes Strategies embrace the TOP MEASURE and the process of the Outcomes Cycle. Each Outcomes Strategy reflects the unique needs of its discipline and utilizes various assessment tools to accomplish its objectives. Stacey Randall, Outcomes Assessment Specialist, is available to help faculty members who are interested in developing an Outcomes Strategy for their course or department.



Outcomes Strategies focus on the four stages of the Outcomes Cycle:

**Measure:** What tools will be used to measure student learning outcomes?

**Analysis:** Who will analyze the results of the assessment?

**Communication:** How will the results be communicated both within and outside of the college?

**Improvement:** How will recommendations for continuous quality improvement be made?

Each department or faculty member will evaluate these questions as they relate to a specific course or discipline. Therefore, no two Outcomes Strategies will look exactly alike or use the same assessment tools.

Several faculty members are already involved in creating Outcomes Strategies and their work can be found on the TOP Web site.

**John Reese**, Human Services Instructor, has developed an Outcomes Strategy that will assess student learning throughout the

student's progress toward the degree. He is using a wide variety of assessment tools that can be adapted by others.

**Kathleen Randall**, Education Instructor, and **Carla Ahmann**, Early Childhood Education Instructor, are working on adapting the LiveText e-portfolio system to Waubensee's education curriculum. They will be showing their students how to use this tool, which will facilitate student success as they transition to a four-year college.

**Tim Draper** and **Amy Godfrey** have developed a history assignment that can be used to assess their student learning objectives. Their students will complete this assignment, which will be evaluated by the faculty members each semester.

Check the TOP Web site for more information on these and other Outcomes Strategies - <http://top.waubensee.edu>.