

To: Purdue Faculty and Staff
From: Christine M. Ladisch, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, and the
Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Workgroup
Date: January 11, 2008
Re: Reviewing tests to measure Purdue undergraduate student
competency in critical thinking and writing

You are invited to participate in an open forum on **Wednesday, January 23, from 1-4 pm in STEW 302-306**. During this time, representatives from three testing services will present information about their critical thinking and writing exams:

1 pm--MAPP: Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress by
Education Testing Services

2 pm--CLA: Collegiate Learning Assessment by Council for Aid to
Education

3 pm--CAAP: Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency by
American College Testing

Purdue has chosen to be part of the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA), which is a joint project of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AACSU) and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC). VSA will provide a Web format titled "College Portrait" to publicize information about the universities who participate, including tuition costs, retention rates, and institutional performance in students' writing and critical thinking. Participating universities may choose from three assessment tests sanctioned by the VSA. The January 23rd forum is an opportunity to learn about these tests and to provide us with feedback regarding selection of the most appropriate test for Purdue students.

We hope to see you on the 23rd. Light refreshments will be available.