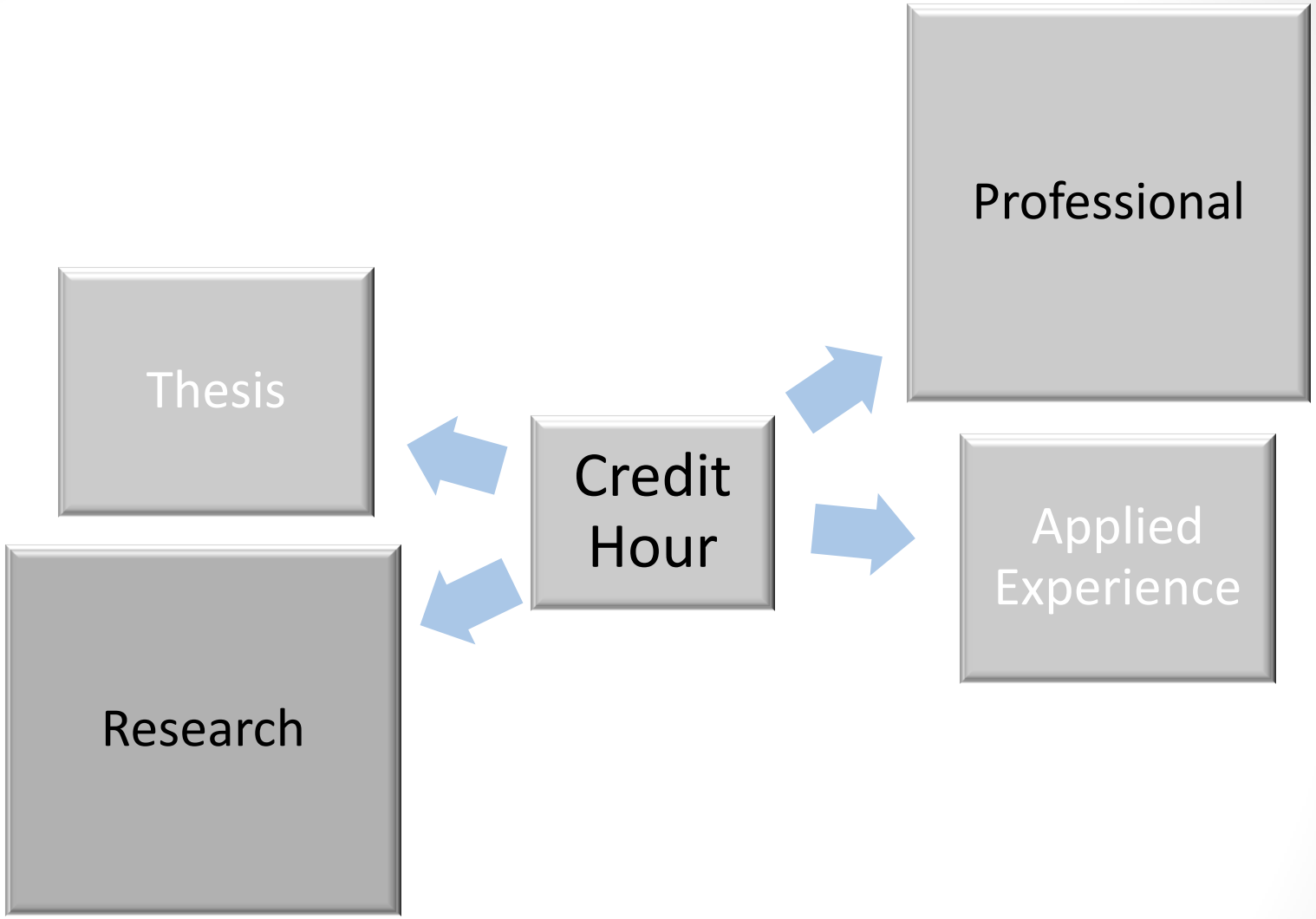
COUNCIL OF GRADUATE SCHOOLS

The Joint Master's Committee and
Research Advisory Group Deans Dialogue

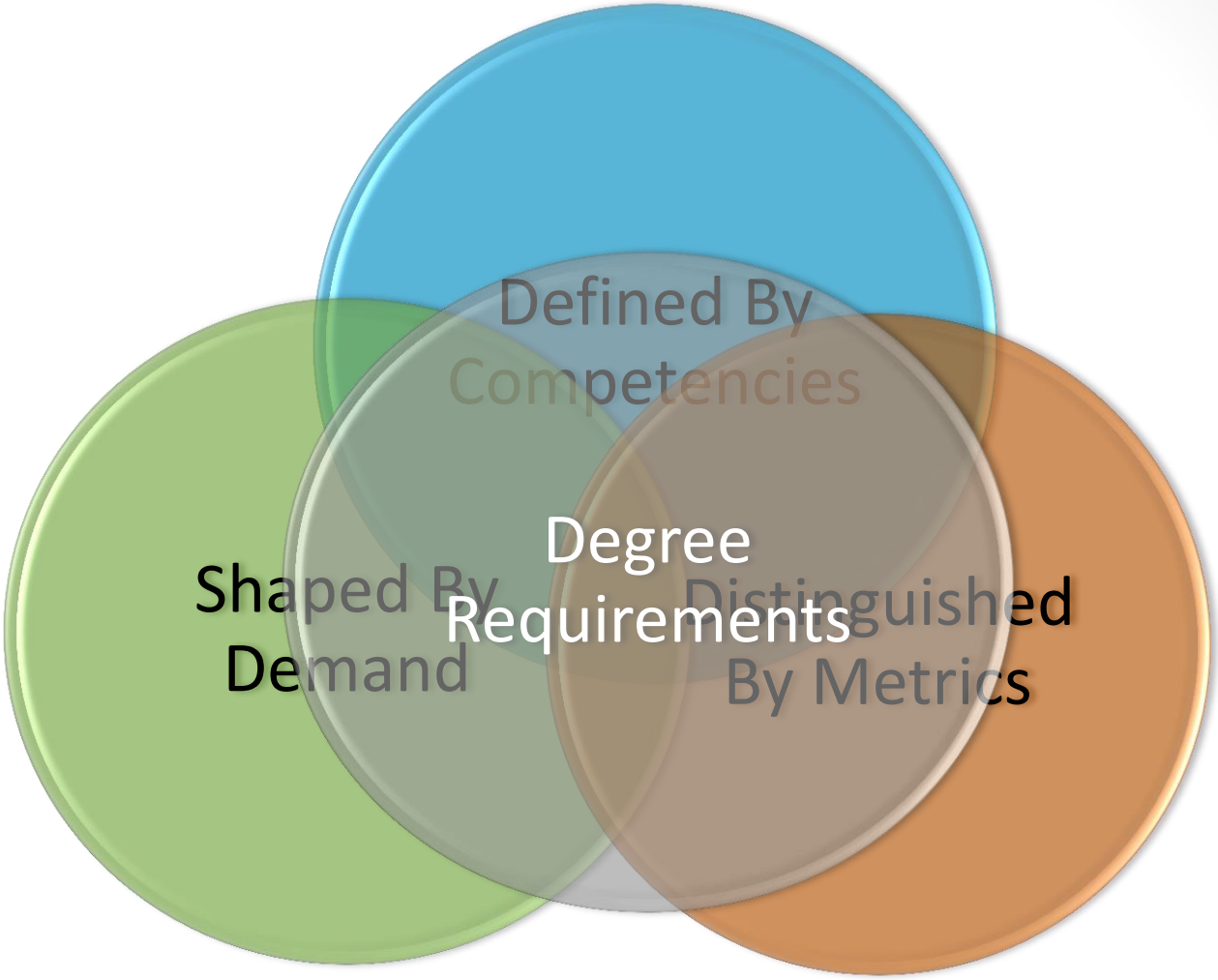
CGS Project on the Master's Degree

From Degree Traditions…….

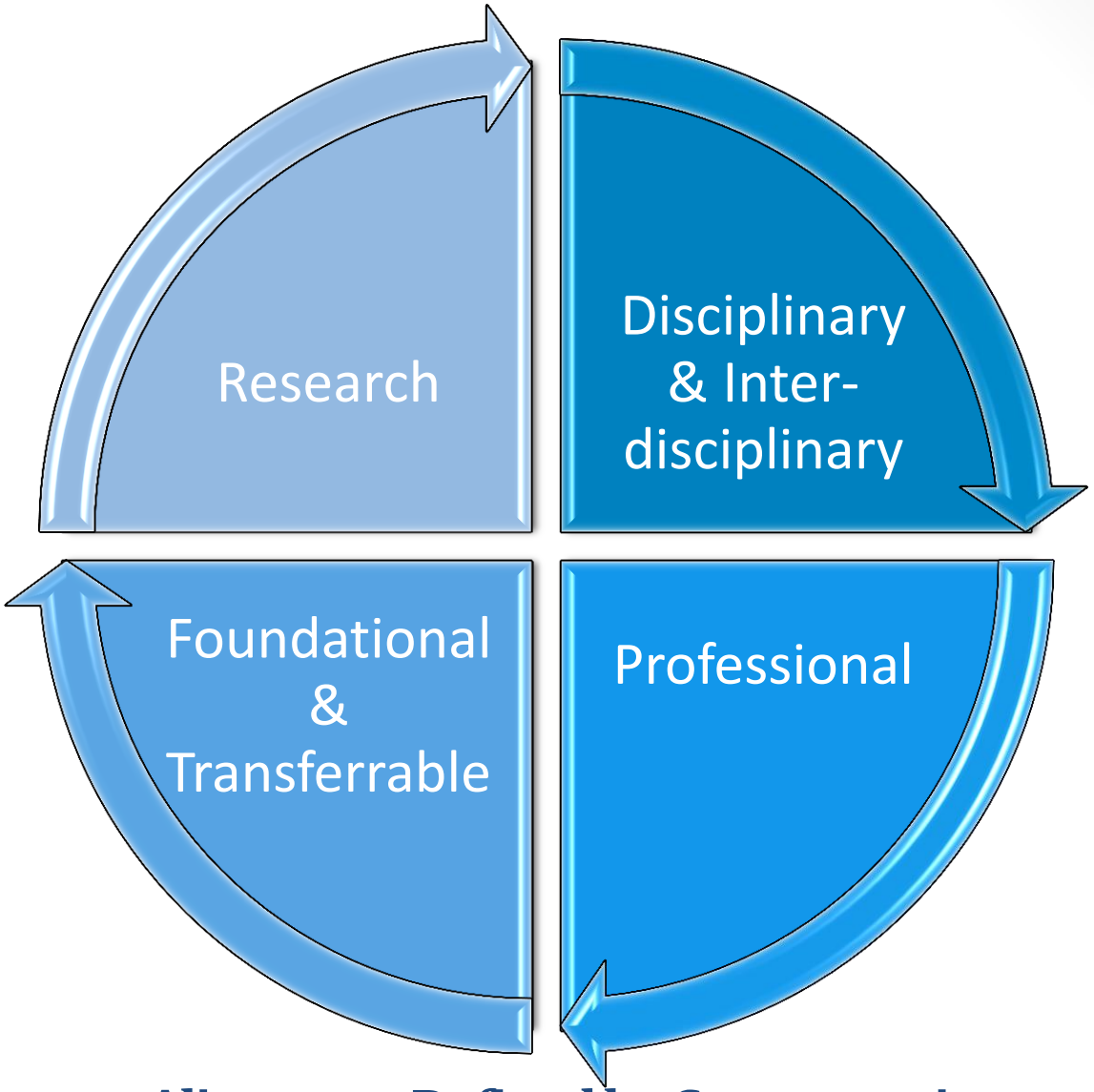
…….To Degree Futures



Degree Traditions

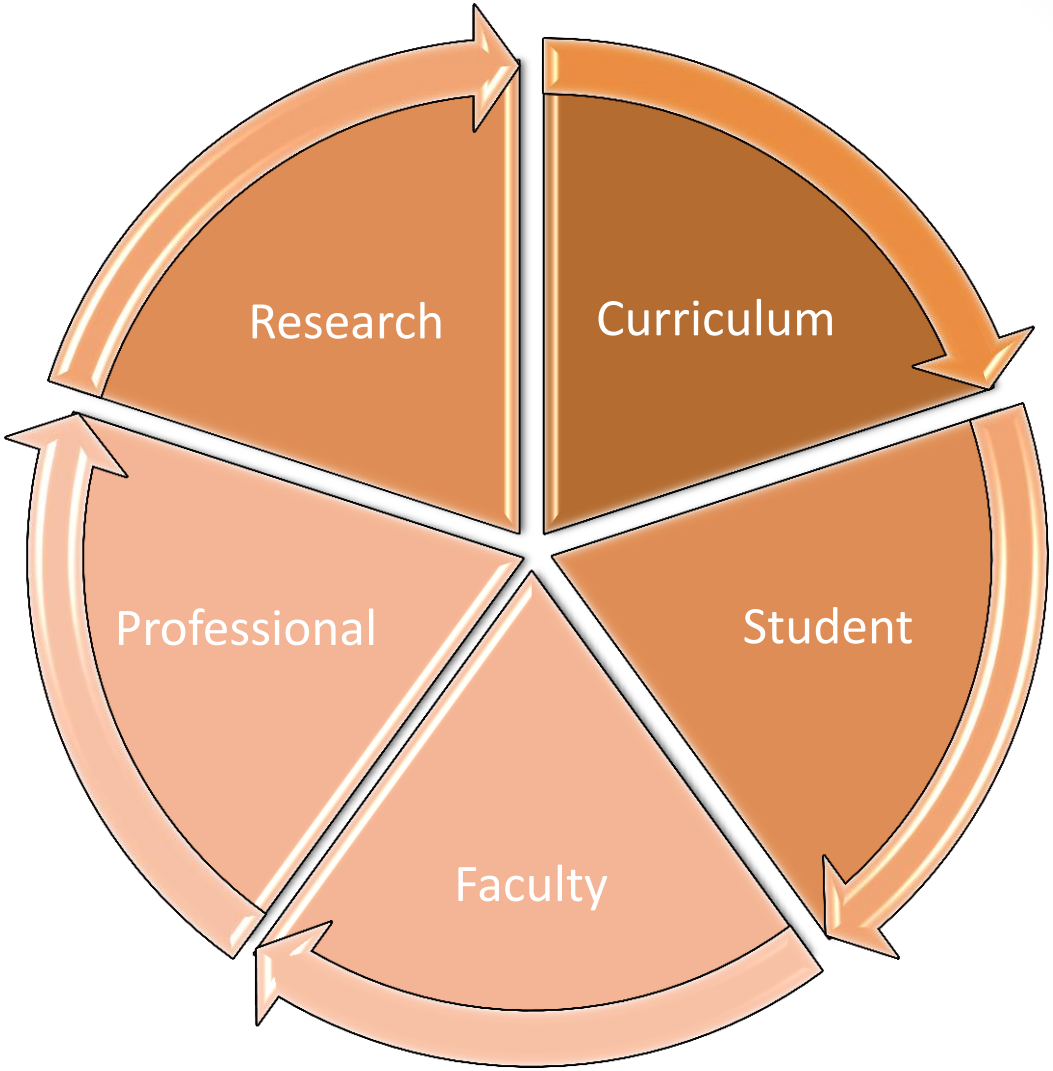


Degree Futures

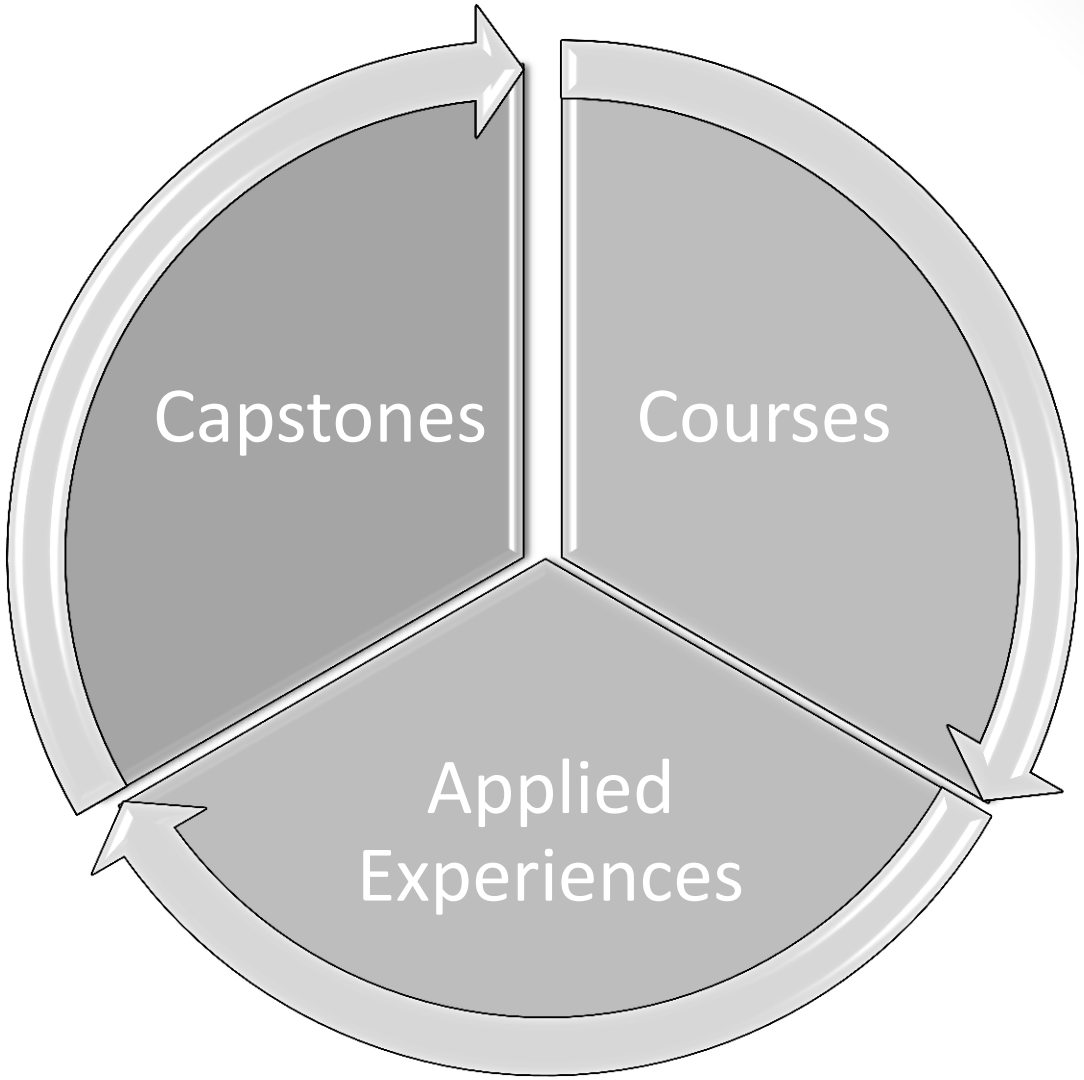


Alignment Defined by Competencies

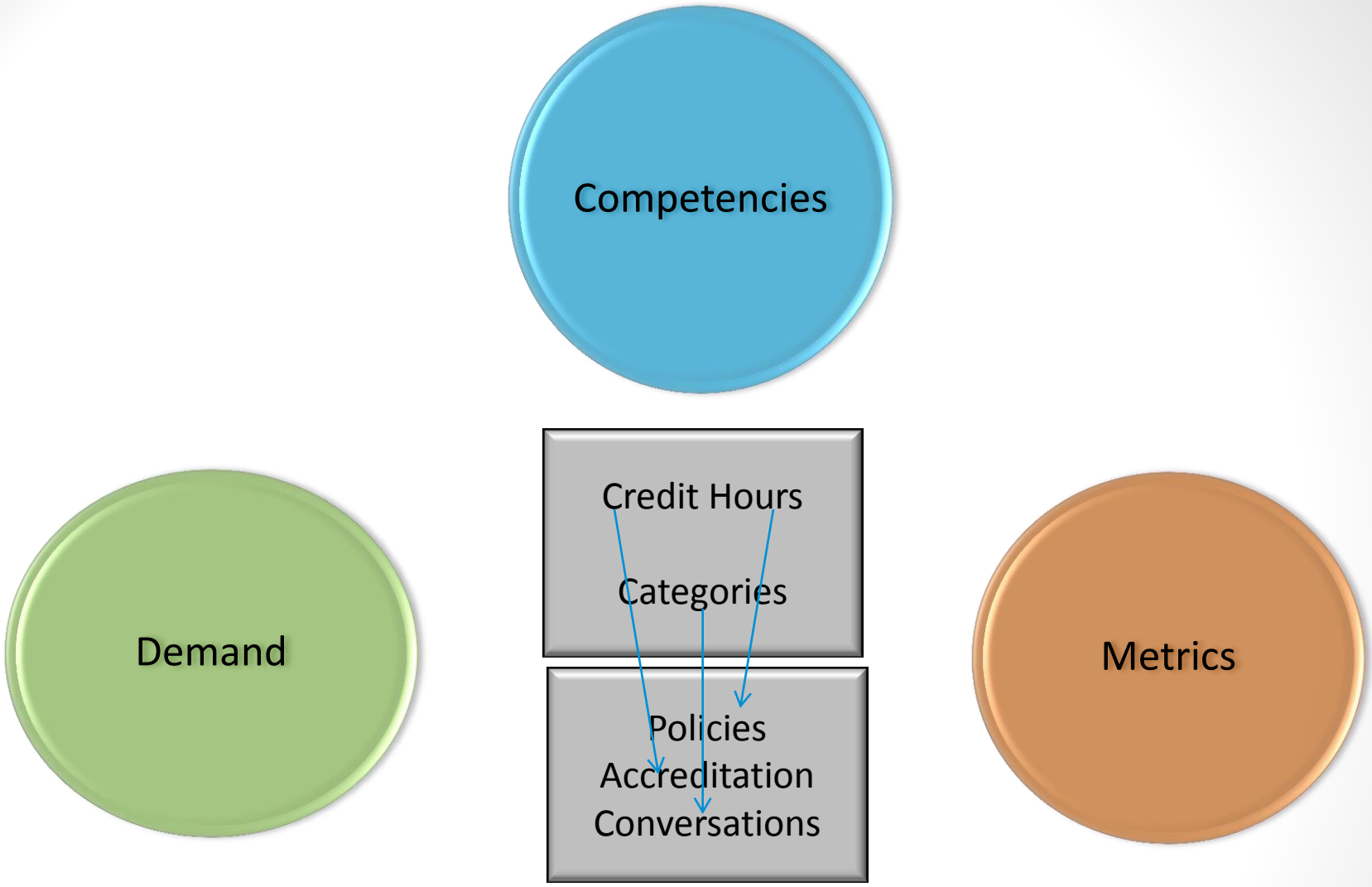
Alignment Shaped by Demand



Alignment Distinguished by Metrics



Alignment with Degree Requirements



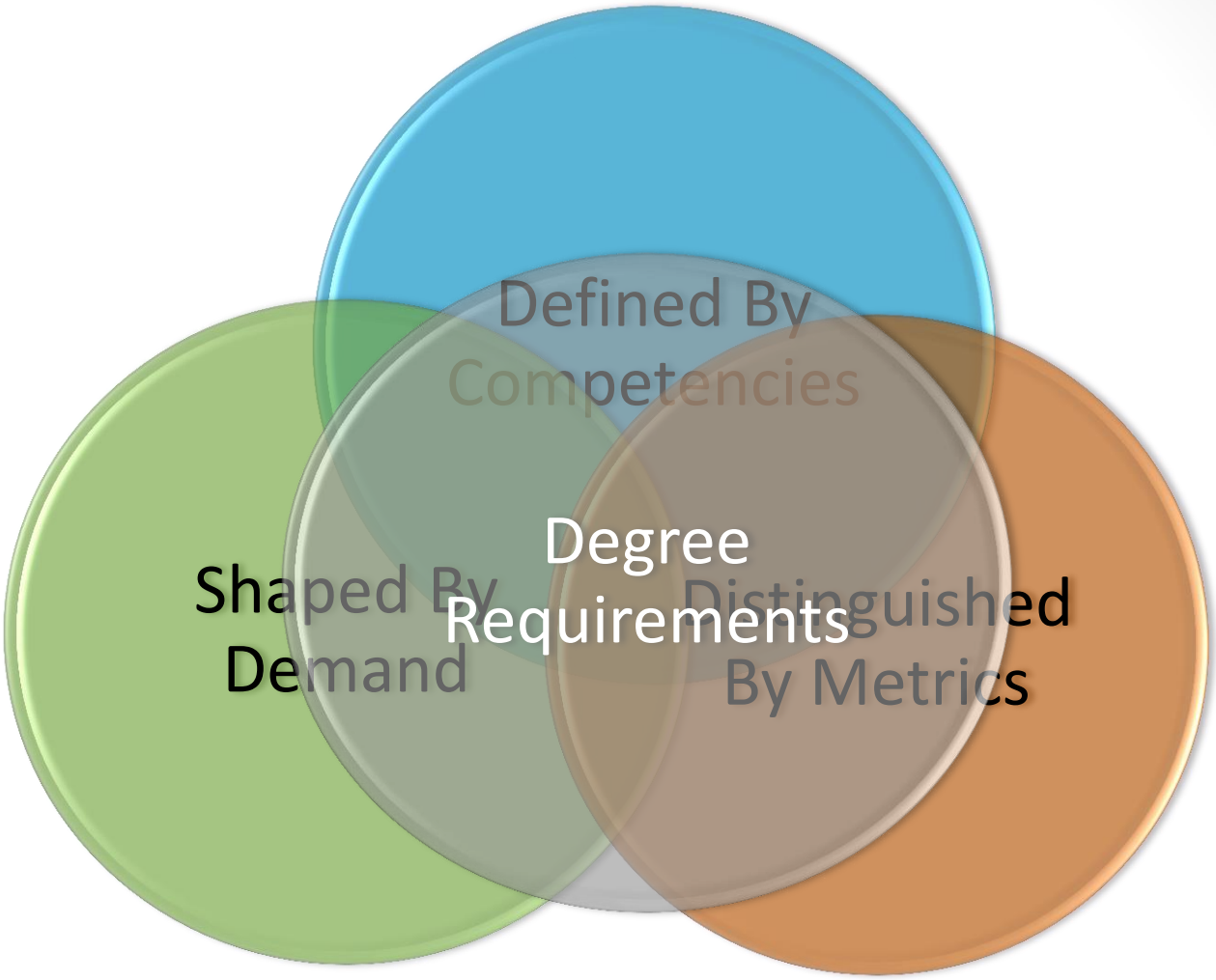
Tradition Limitations

The Alignment Difference

- ***Connect*** Deans & Program Directors
- To Research & Analysis ***Tools***
- To Continuously ***Improve*** Current Degrees
- To Strategically ***Advance*** Future Degrees

The Alignment Value

- Drive ***Responsiveness***
- Harness ***Innovation***
- Motivate ***Distinctiveness***



The Alignment Framework Impact

Definitions Team

- Describe a master's degree in 3 words.
- How does the rubric (included with the printed questions) guide your understanding of the degree?
- What distinguishes a master's degree from a bachelor's degree, a bachelor's degree with honors, or PHD degree?

Competencies Team

- What is the state of competency usage at various institutions (i.e., where do they exist? How are they used? Are they effective or not?)
- What evidence (i.e., research) is needed to better understand competency-based education in master's education?

Demand Team

- What are the various demands that should be considered when preparing a new degree program?
- What role does demand play when you are considering new programs, reviewing current programs, and sun-setting programs?
- How do you read the “tea leaves” or predict demand when the profession or career is just emerging (e.g. cybersecurity, migration studies, data analytics, health care administration).

Metrics Team

- When asked to name the top 3-5 master's programs at your institution, how do you decide which programs should be included on the list? What program elements and distinguishing features and outcomes contribute to each program's status and identification as a "premier" program at your institution?
- How can those program elements and distinguishing features be measured?
- What are the relationships between the program elements/distinguishing features of premier master's programs and the competencies from those programs?
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