



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

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# GRADUATE PROGRAM REVIEW

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10,000 graduate students  
3,000 graduate faculty  
99 doctoral programs  
137 master's programs  
7 professional programs







What is  
review?



critique or evaluation;  
a critical article or report;  
judgement with consequence.



# Overview

1. Review & Assessment
2. Periodic Program Review
3. One-time Doctoral Review



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

The Graduate School

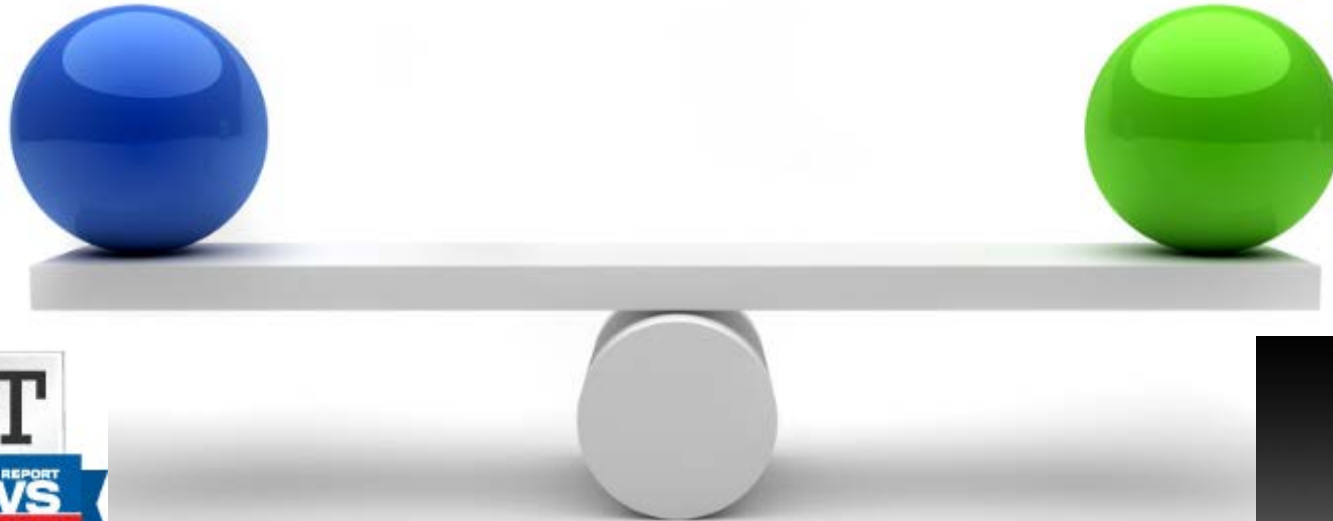
# Assessment & Review





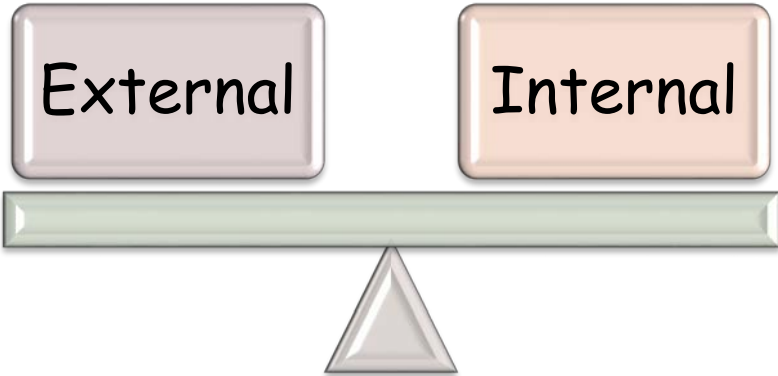
Review

Assessment



Quality





**REVIEW**

- Periodic
- Outside evaluators
- Program quality indicators

**ASSESSMENT**

- Ongoing
- Program Faculty
- Student learning





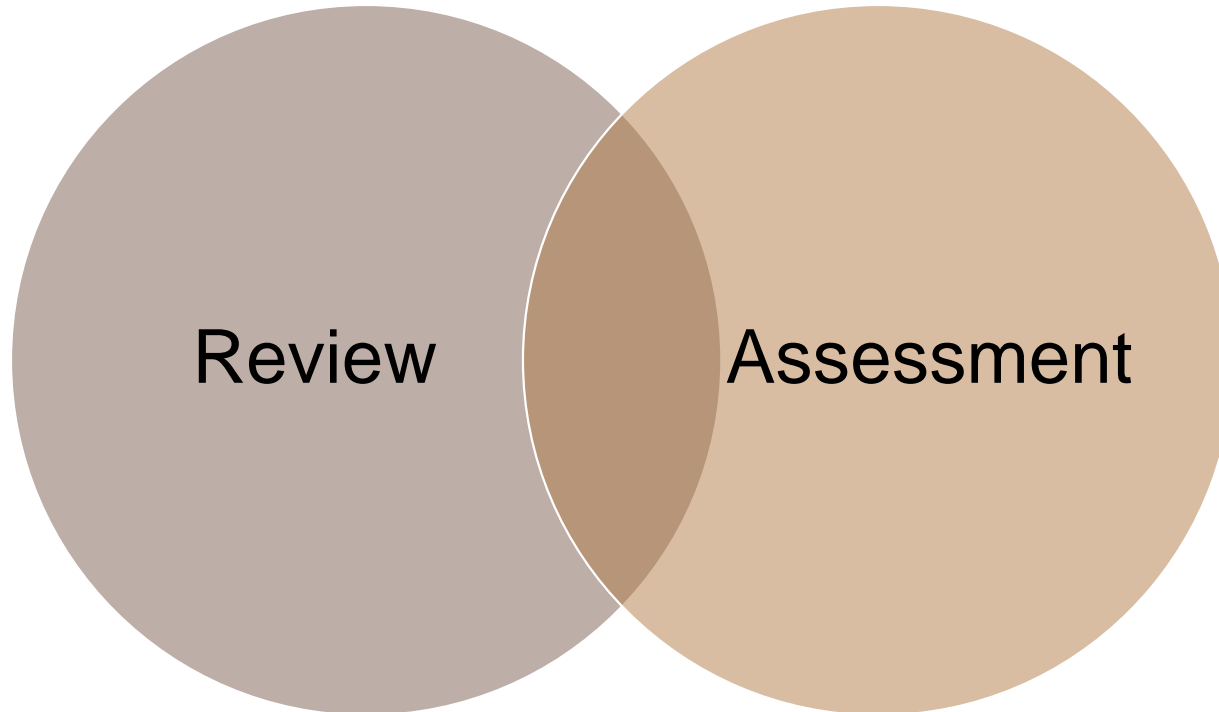
## Review

- GPA / GRE
- Publications
- Rankings
- Compare to AAU
- Time to degree
- Student Survey Results

## Assessment

- Depth of Knowledge
- Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Other
- Time to degree
- Student Survey Results





BTW, the review can include review of the assessment plan.



# Faculty Buy in

Ownership

Not punitive

“Make it Meaningful”

“Use your Professional Judgment”





# Graduate Program Review







# Foundational Thoughts

- Constructive, not punitive
- Forward looking
- It's about good judgment
- Data-informed, not data-driven
- It cannot be formulaic



# Periodic Graduate Program Review

- Embedded within Departmental Review
- Cyclic, with Dean's input
- Strength: Holistic
- Weakness: Can be less focused





# Departmental Review







# Data informing the self study

- Faculty
- Diversity
  - Race/ethnicity of recent PhD graduates to AAU
- Research
- Educational Programs
  - Time to degree, completion patterns, enrollment trends
  - Graduate stipends against benchmarks
  - Placement of PhDs
  - Graduate Student Survey Results



# External reviewers

- Dept. nominates (6); VP chooses (3)
- Dinner with Vice Provost and Dean
- B'fast with Chair
- Meet with
  - Faculty (separate with untenured faculty)
  - Undergraduate and Graduate Students
  - Some Administrators\*
- Exit Meeting
  - Chair
  - Provost group\*

\*ME



# Plan of Action

- Unique feature
- Developed by Department
- Shared, revised w/ Dean, VP, Provost
- Align w/ strategic plan
- Binding annual and future reviews





# The 2008 Doctoral Assessment





# Doctoral Quality Initiative

- **2006 Provost initiative**
  - Goal of identifying doctoral programs that will enhance the standing of Ohio State. Invest in high quality programs. Disinvest in weak and non-core programs.
- **2008 Doctoral review**
  - Data intensive review. College submit its review. Faculty review committee.
- **Adaptive Feedback Process**
  - GS meeting with Colleges, identify enhancement and disinvestment. GS compile results. Dialogues with Provost, Graduate Dean, College Deans. Final decision by Provost.
- **Result**
  - 3K programs. Graduate program restructuring.



# Quality Indicators

## Student Input

GPA, GREs, Fellowship success

## Student Output

Completion Rates, Time to degree, Placement

## Student Diversity

## Overall Program Quality and centrality





# Criteria for Enhancement

- New or emerging opportunities where Ohio State can excel
- Gaining a competitive edge
- Improvements in addressing diversity
- New Approaches to recruiting high-quality students
- Commitment of department and college to strengthening the program



# 2008 Doctoral Review

Rankings	# Doctoral Programs
<i>High Quality</i>	12
<i>Strong</i>	17
<i>Good</i>	16
<i>New/Developing</i>	11
<i>Reassess/Restructure</i>	29
<i>Disinvestment/Elimination</i>	5



### **Intended**

Eliminate/ reorganize  
weak programs  
Reward Excellence  
Strong stayed strong

### **Unintended**

Entitlement  
Uneven playing field  
Lack of assessment



# Graduate Program Review

## PERIODIC

- Comparison to similar programs nationally
- Looking at trajectory

## ONE TIME

- Ability to compare to dissimilar programs locally
- Snapshot
- Share best practices locally



# Questions for thought

1. Do reviews change as priorities change?
2. Are GPA and GRE defensible criteria?
3. Should individual student output  $>$  input?
4. Is what's important being reviewed?





# Questions

# Discussion

