

# Moving toward assessments that are beneficial



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# University of the Sciences

- 2,750 Undergraduates, graduate and professional students
- Located in University City in Philadelphia
- 35 acre campus
- Began as Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1821
- Became a university about 20 years ago
- Most popular academic programs:
  - Pharmacy
  - Physical Therapy
  - Biological Sciences



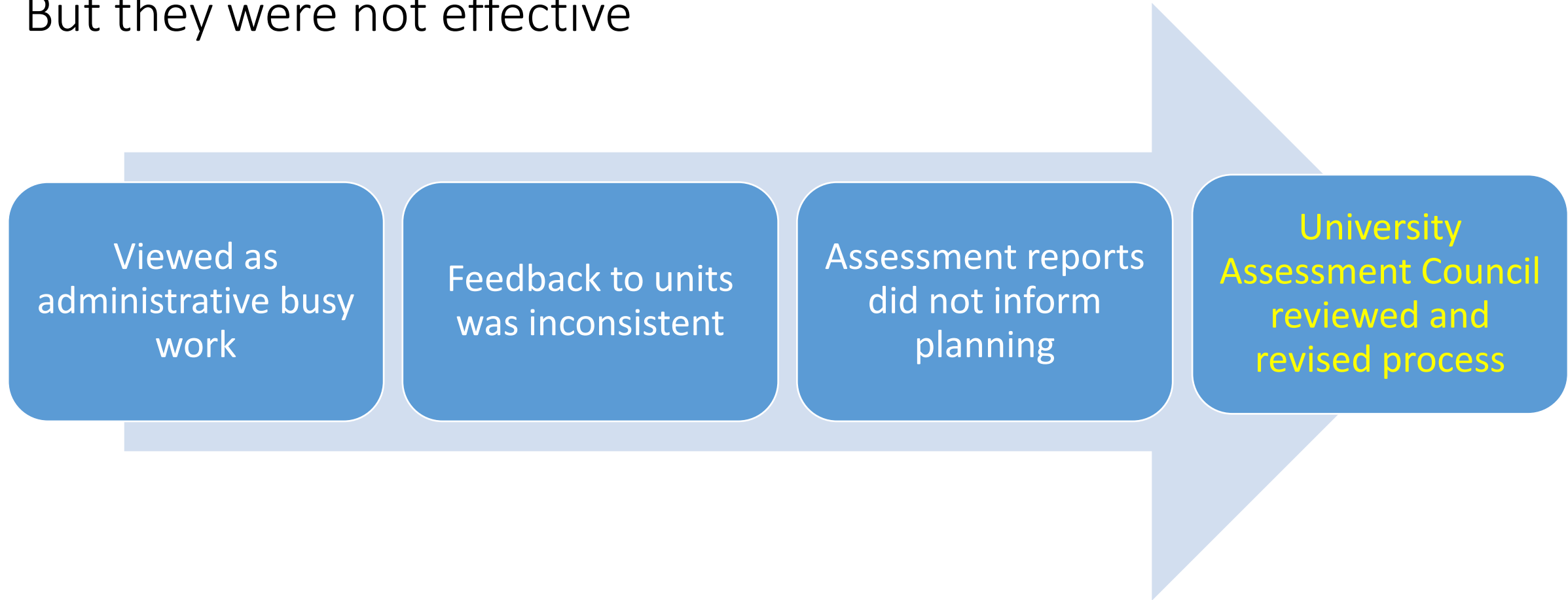
# Objectives

We will describe our assessment so that you can:

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- Avoid common mistakes in student learning and program assessment
  - Determine you can use our rubrics with your assessment process
  - Reflect on your assessment process and take steps to make it more beneficial

## Key elements of our old assessment process:

1. Every unit required to do annual assessment reports.  
But they were not effective



Key elements of our old assessment process:

2. Student learning goals were not well measured

## Solution:

Educate faculty why grades are not a good measure of student learning

Suggest looking at sub-scores on tests and grades on student projects and papers

Key elements of our old assessment process:

3. People chose outcomes that were easy to measure and to make unit look good

## Suggested solutions

Assess broad questions with important implications

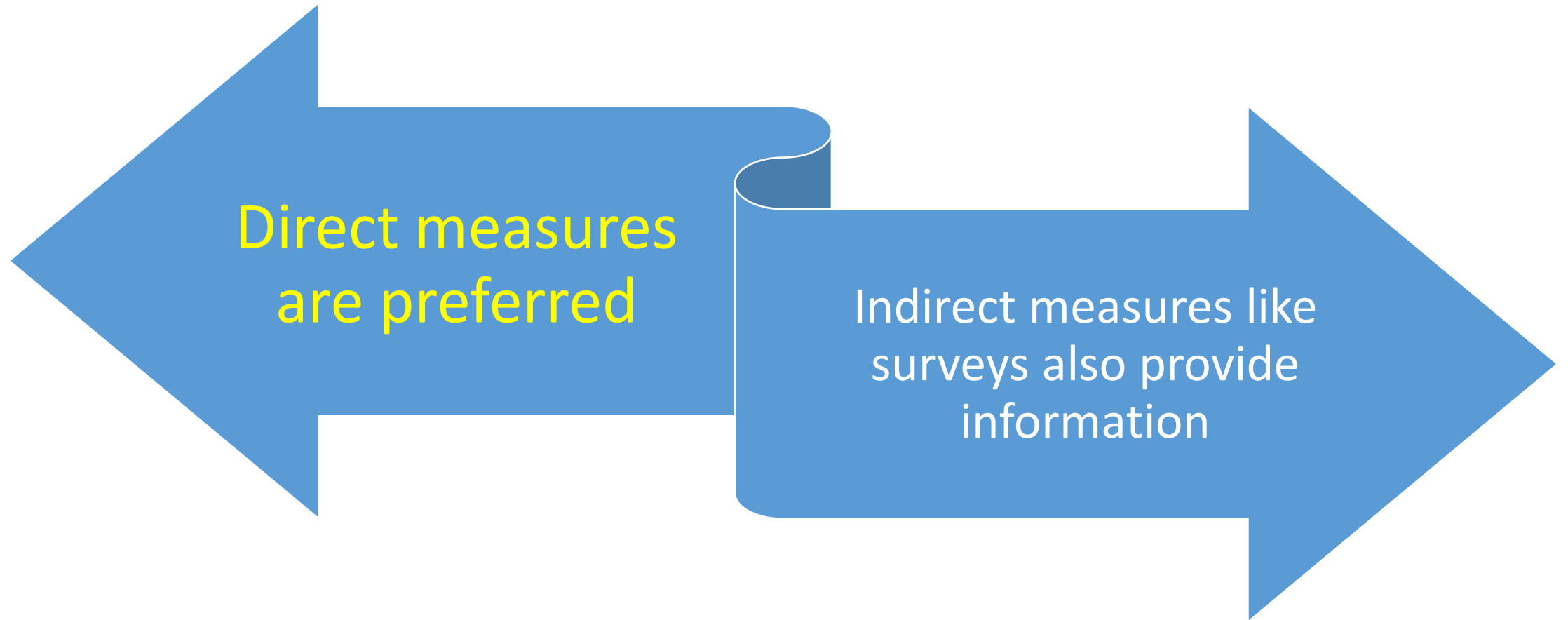
Assess larger goals which may not be met in one year

Create environment that is acceptable to admit that outcomes are not yet met.

# Develop measurable goals

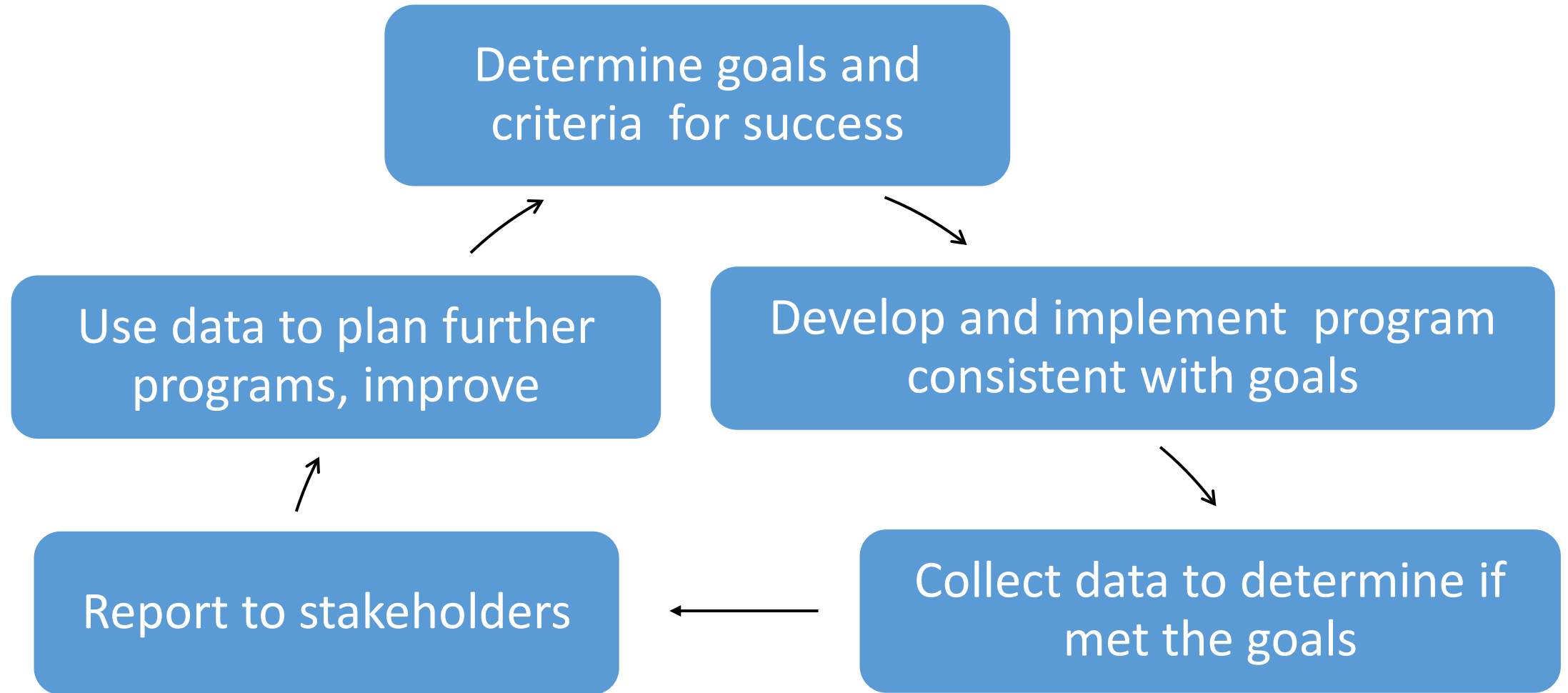


# Develop appropriate assessment methods





# Rubrics reflect Suskie's Assessment Cycle



# Streamlined the annual assessment reports

Outcomes are reported on a rotating basis with only 1/3 of the outcomes described each year.

Accredited programs can now submit the same report for our internal reporting requirements as they do for their own accreditation.

Reduced the total number of outcomes that programs or units should consider to 6

# Sought feedback and buy in from stakeholders . . .

Presented plan to each stakeholder group



Changed due dates as result of feedback from administrators



Taking a step back this year and asking units to rethink their goals and how they want to measure if goals were met

# Inspect rubrics for student learning outcomes and programmatic outcomes

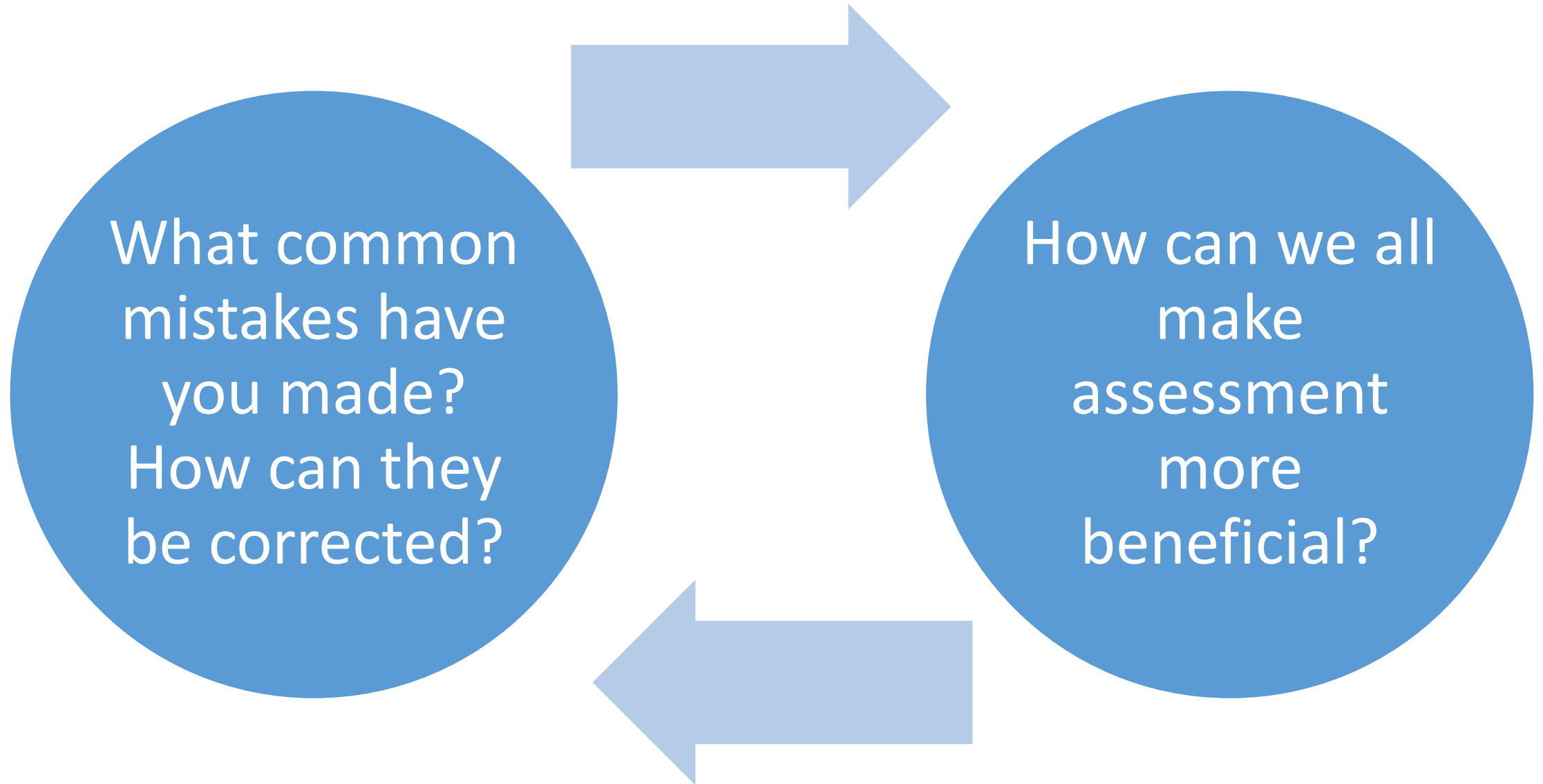


Any questions about rubrics?

Any feedback to us?

Can you use them at your institution?

Reflect on your assessment process and take steps to make it more beneficial



# Questions, Comments

Contact information

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