

Mining the Gold from Effective Institutional Assessment

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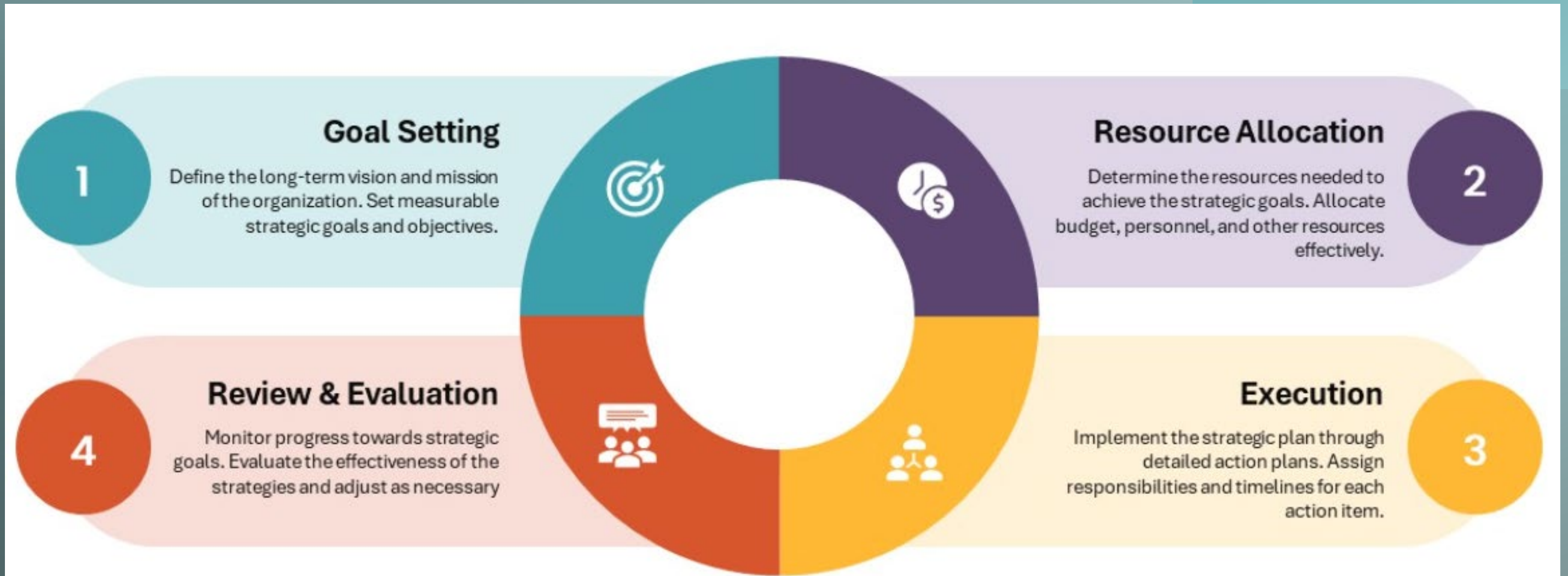
Part I: Mining the Gold from Effective Institutional Assessment

➤ **Getting the big picture in focus**

➤ **Starting with the end in mind**



Starting with Strategic Planning...



What is Institutional Assessment?

Institutional assessment evaluates the effectiveness of ...

- An institution's programs,**
- Its policies, and**
- The learner and program outcomes**

...to ensure quality education and continuous improvement.



Key Components of Institutional Assessment

- **Mission and Goals Alignment**
- **Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)**
- **Curriculum Effectiveness**
- **Faculty Assessment**
- **Institutional Research & Data Collection**
- **Stakeholder Feedback**
- **Continuous Improvement**



ABHE Accreditation Standards on Assessment



Comprehensive assessment system

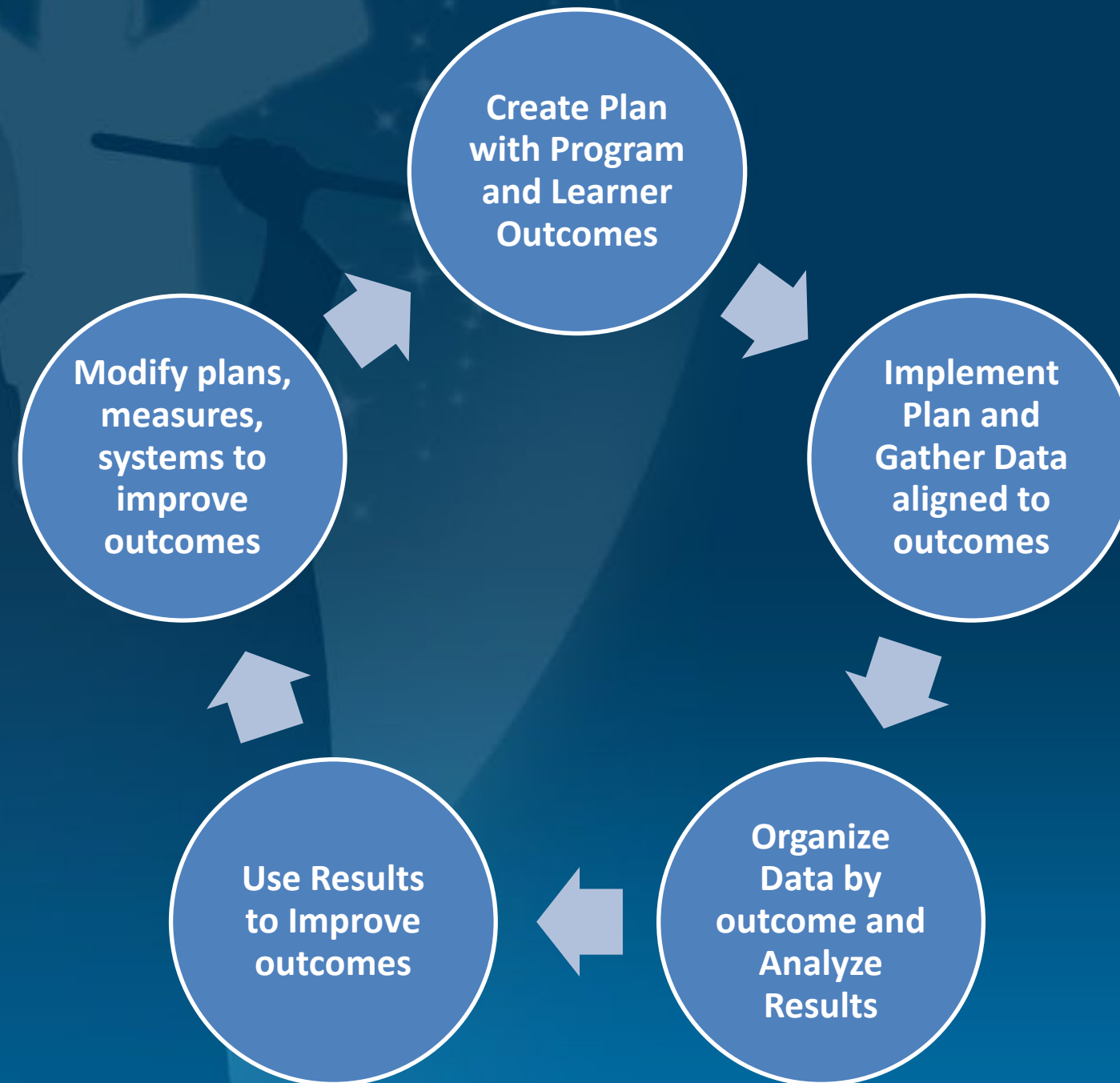
Regular data collection and analysis

Evidence-based decision-making

Strategic planning and institutional effectiveness

Documented student learning assessments

Cycle of Continuous Improvement

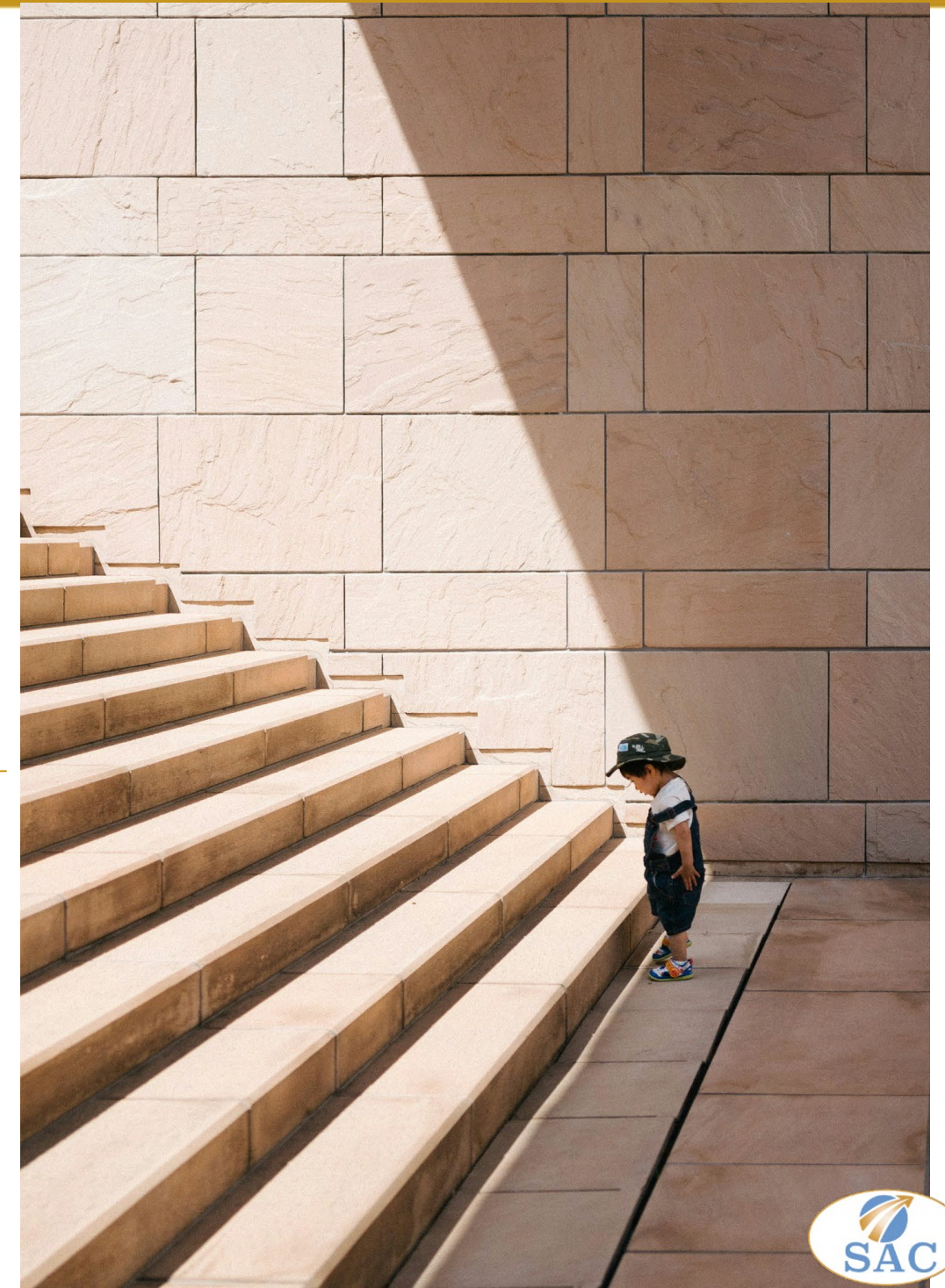




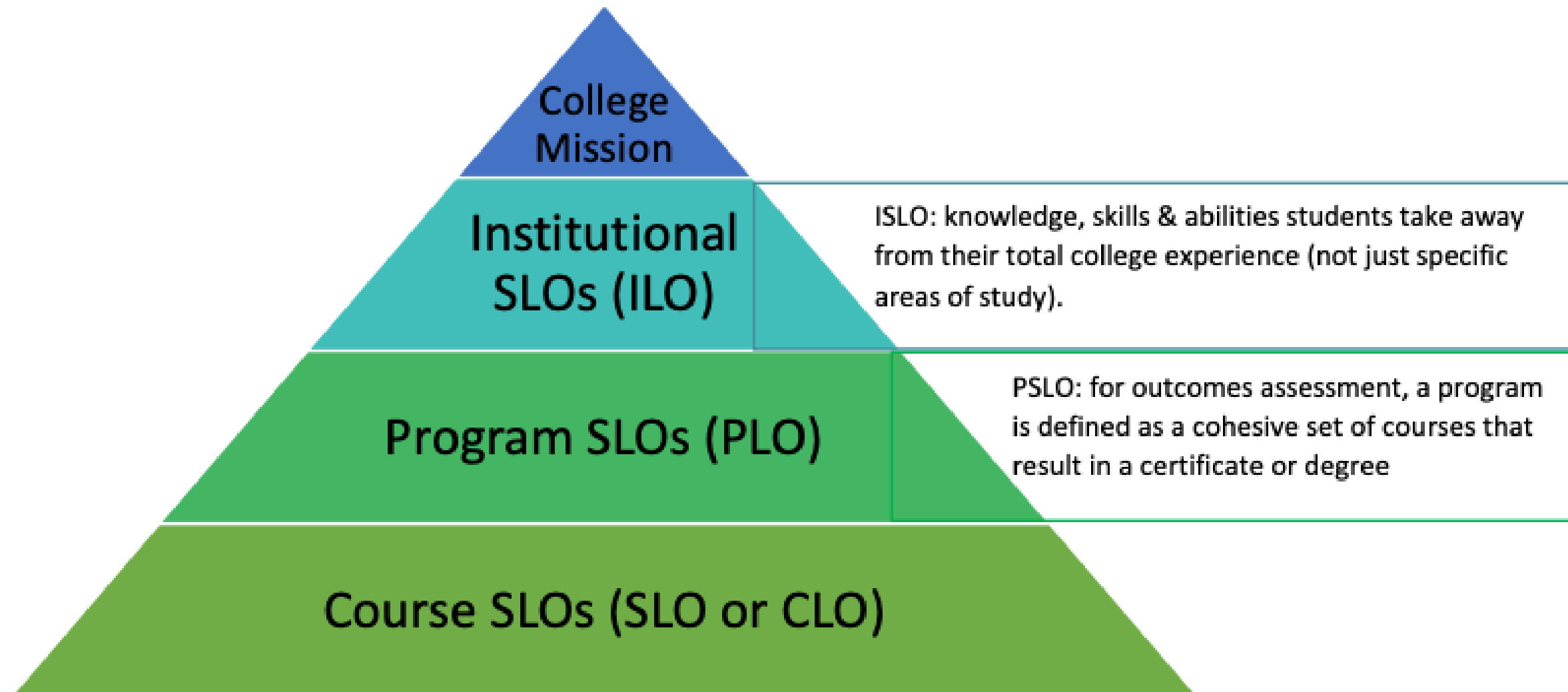
Part II: Mining the Gold from Effective Institutional Assessment

➤ **Organizing and executing for results and insights**

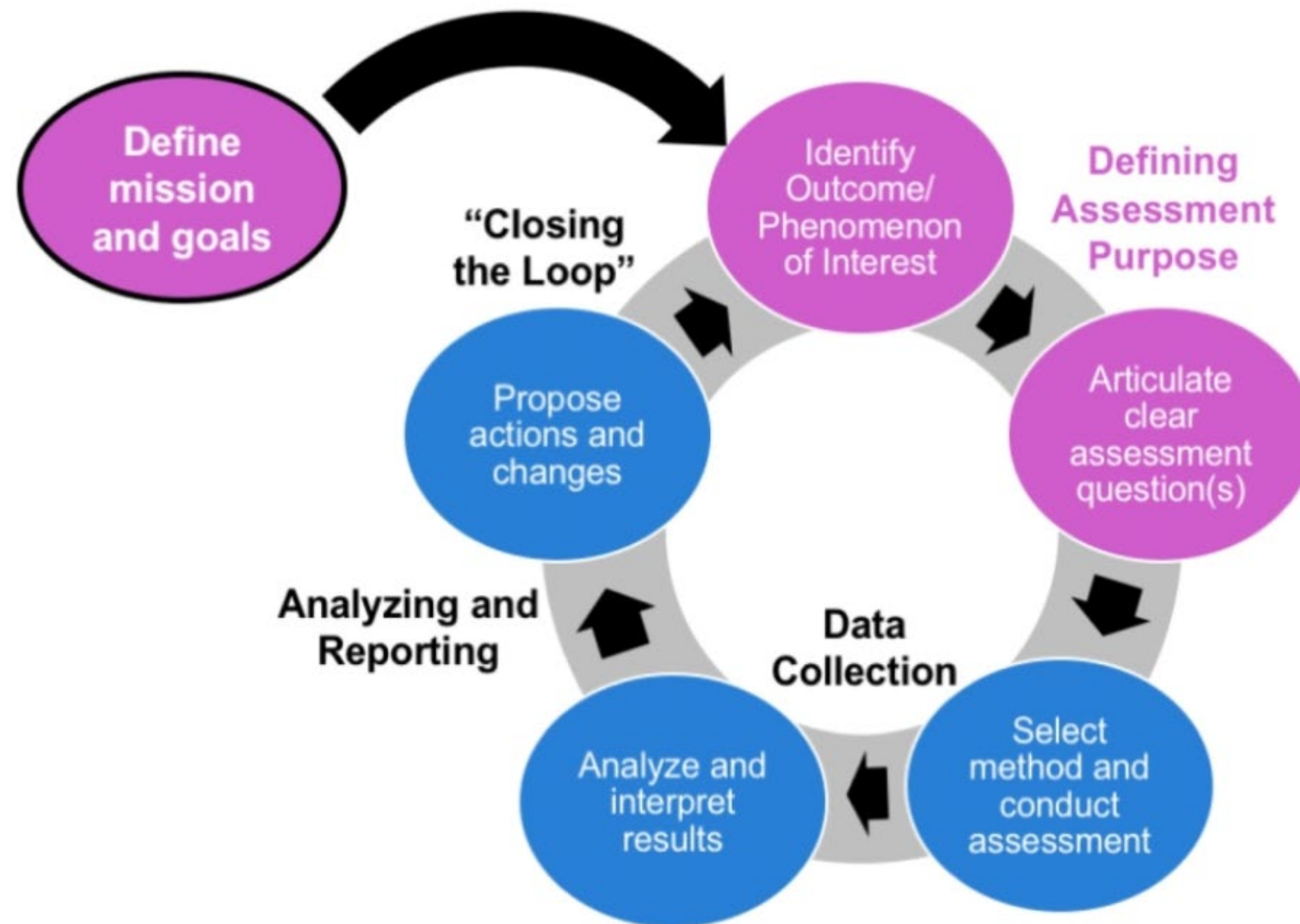
➤ **Working with purpose**



Outcomes Support Institutional Mission



Foster a Culture of Continuous Improvement



Effective Institutional Strategies for Quality Assurance

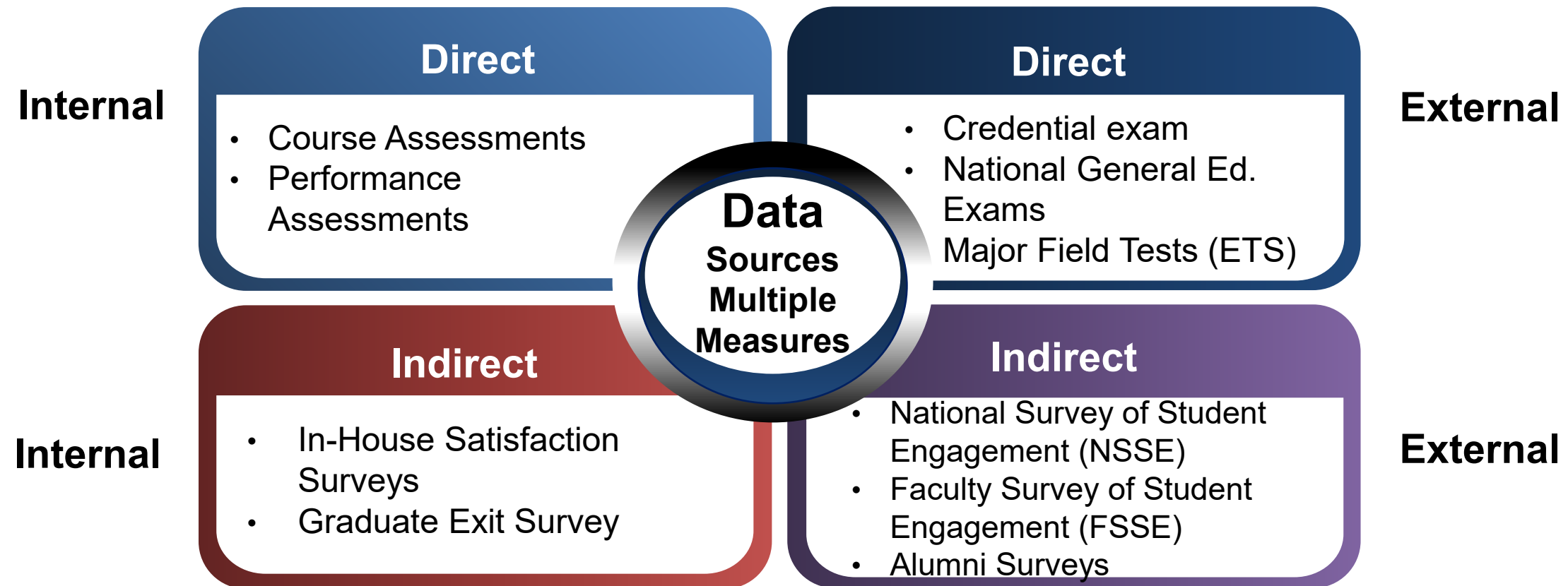
- Create a culture of continuous improvement
- Establish clear learning objectives
- Use direct and indirect assessment methods
- Align assessments with accreditation standards
- Engage faculty and stakeholders in the process
- Utilize technology for data collection and analysis
- Rely on Data-Driven Decision Making
- Foster a culture of continuous improvement



Quality Assurance System



Balanced Academic Assessment





Direct vs. Indirect Assessment Methods

- Direct Assessment Methods:
 - Exams, quizzes, and standardized tests
 - Capstone projects and portfolios
 - Research papers and presentations
- Indirect Assessment Methods:
 - Student surveys and course evaluations
 - Alumni feedback and employer reviews
 - Focus groups and institutional reports





Part III: Mining the Gold from Effective Institutional Assessment

- **Incorporating insights into future actions**
- **Closing the circle**



Continuous Improvement through Assessment

- Assessment results should be used to:
- Identify areas for improvement
- Modify curriculum and teaching methods
- Enhance student success initiatives
- Strengthen faculty development
- Improve institutional planning

through

DATA-DRIVEN DECISION MAKING

5 Benefits of Data-Driven Decision Making



Data Analysis Outcomes for Student Learning

 **Trends:** Look for overall trends in data over time and consider factors influencing these trends.

 **Patterns:** Identify patterns in the data and recognize any surprising concentrations.

 **Outliers:** Be vigilant for data points that deviate significantly from the norm.

 **Comparisons:** Compare data with institution-wide data or other benchmarks.

 **Data Breakdowns (Disaggregation):** Consider data broken down by subgroups, such as ethnicity.

 **Themes and Interactions:** Analyze narrative information for recurring themes.

Role of Institutional Research in Assessment

- Collects and analyzes student learning data
- Identifies trends in student performance
- Supports evidence-based decision-making
- Provides reports for accreditation and compliance



Example: Liberal Arts College

- Used capstone projects to assess critical thinking and communication
- Implemented a student engagement survey to gauge learning experiences
- Adjusted curriculum based on assessment findings to improve student success





Example: STEM University Approach

- Integrated research projects into undergraduate courses
- Assessed student competency using real-world problem-solving tasks
- Used employer feedback to refine professional skills development



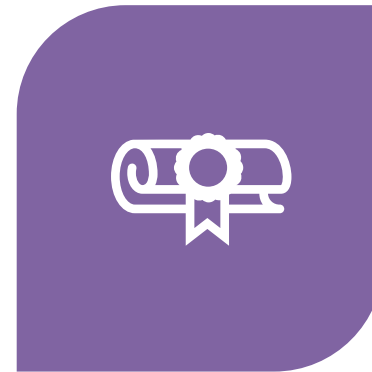
KEY TAKEAWAYS



- INSTITUTIONAL ASSESSMENT IS CRUCIAL FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



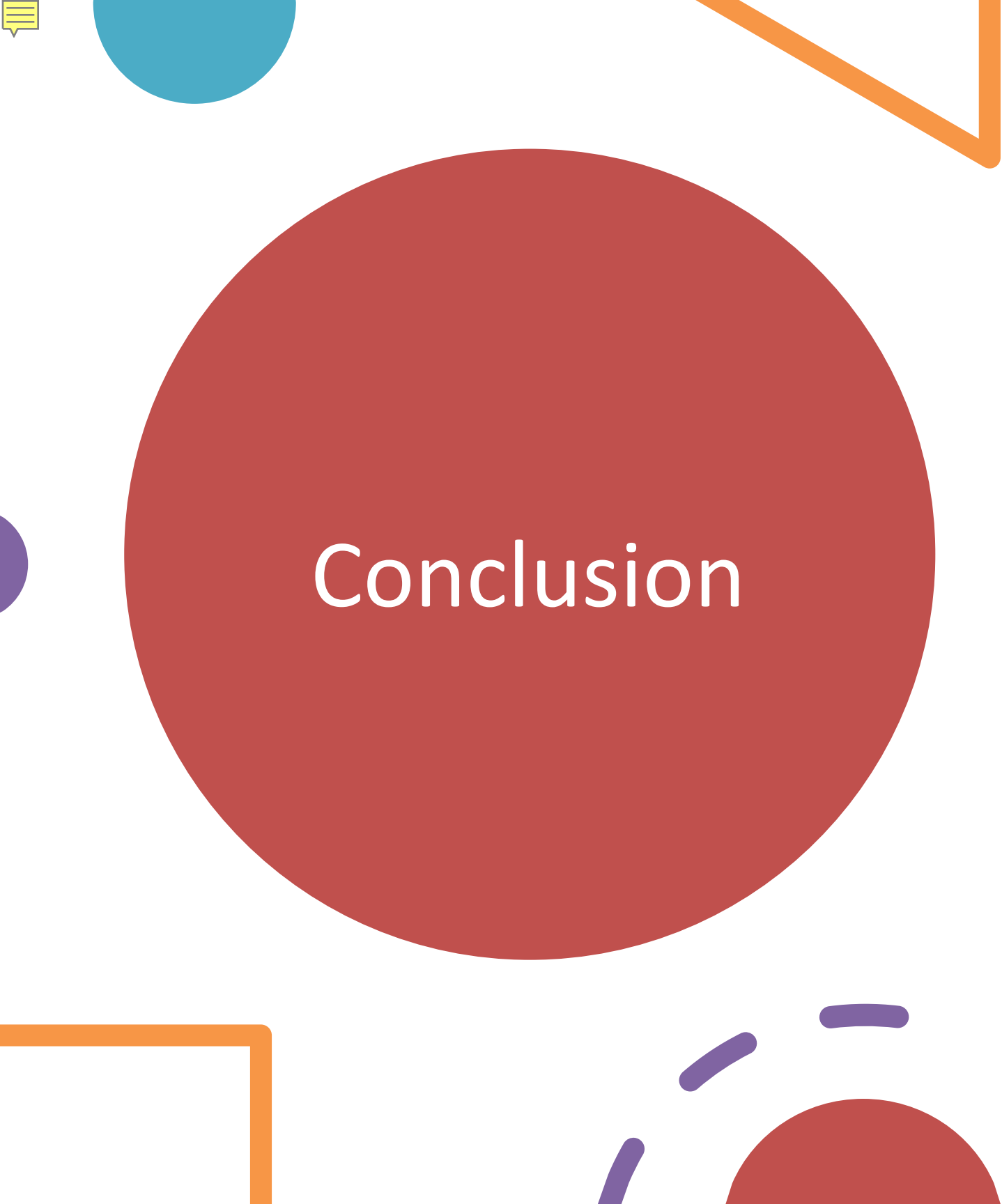
- A COMBINATION OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT METHODS ENSURES COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION



- REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES SHOW HOW EFFECTIVE ASSESSMENT IMPROVES STUDENT OUTCOMES



- INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORTS DATA-DRIVEN DECISION-MAKING



Conclusion

Institutional assessment ensures that higher education institutions maintain high standards, improve student learning, and meet accreditation requirements. For ABHE institutions, a strong assessment strategy supports faith-based education and student success.