Mission / Purpose
The Master of Science in Logistics, Trade, and Transportation (MS LTT) is designed to empower professionals to meet the growing demands of logistics transportation and supply chain related careers in the Gulf Coast Regions, Nationally and Internationally.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 1: Planning and Strategies
Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to effectively develop plans and strategies.

Related Measures:

M 1: Research Project in IET 670
In IET 670, students are assigned with a Research Project in which they develop a plan and implement strategies to solve real typical industry problems in their area.

Source of Evidence: Project, either individual or group

Target:
80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on the technical content of the IET 670 Group Project. (Scale: 100-90% = Advanced, 89-80% = Adequate, 79-70%=Minimally Acceptable, <70% Unacceptable)

Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
There were 22 students in IET 670 class offered in the fall of 2013 who completed the course requirements. About 91% (20 out of 22) of the students received 80% or better on the technical content of the IET 670 research project.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Offer IET 670 Fall 2011
Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
IET 670 will be offered during Fall 2011

More challenging projects
Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Objective was met. To further improve the quality of research project, students will be given contemporary and challenging topic...

M 2: Case Analysis in IET 615
In IET 615, students will evaluate the effectiveness of various systems for planning and strategies in case study and/or final exams.

Source of Evidence: Writing exam to assure certain proficiency level

Target:
80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on modeling section of the final exam of the IET 615 courses.
Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
(84.36%) of the students' scored 80% or better on modeling section of the final exam of the IET 615 courses.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Update Materials on Modeling
Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
The target was met. To continue improving the program new materials will be updated in the course regarding modeling.

SLO 2: Operations, Management and Leadership
Students will demonstrate critical skills necessary in operations, management and leadership.

Related Measures:

M 3: Final Examination in IET 571
Final Examination: In IET 571, students will use various operations and management tools and techniques in hypothetical exercises and/or in class projects.

Source of Evidence: Written assignment(s), usually scored by a rubric

Target:
80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on the specific analytical section of the final exam of IET 571 course.

Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
There were 24 students in IET 571 class offered in the fall of 2013 who completed the course requirements. About 96% (23 out of 24) of the students received 80% or better on the specific analytical section of the final exam of IET 571 course.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Add Variable to Analytical Section of IET 571
Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
The target was met. To continue improving the program additional variable(s) on the analytical section of the course and final exam... 

Including additional variable(s) on the analytical section of final exam
Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
The target was met. To continue improving the program additional variable(s) on the analytical section of the course and final exam...

M 4: Exit Survey
Students' own recognition of their Management skills and Leadership abilities. An exit survey will be administered to graduating students). These surveys will ask questions regarding the person’s own perception regarding his/her Management skills and Leadership abilities.

Source of Evidence: Exit interviews with grads/program completers

Target:
70% of the students' responses upon graduation will be 4 or better, where (5=Very Satisfied) (4=Satisfied) (3=Somewhat Satisfied) (2=Somewhat Dissatisfied) (1=Dissatisfied.)
Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
Three (17) students graduated and took the exist survey. 100% (17 out of 17) were 'Very Satisfied' or 'Satisfied' with their 'Operation and Management' skills. 94% (16 out of 17) were 'Very Satisfied' or 'Satisfied' with their 'Leadership' ability.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Develop and Deploy Exit Survey
Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
An "Exit Survey" will be developed and deployed during the 2011-2012 Academic Year

SLO 3: Systems Analysis and Modeling
Students will be capable to perform systems analysis and develop models for various systems.

Related Measures:

M 5: Assignments in IET 671
In IET 671, students will analyze a typical logistics system in their area and develop models for that system.

Source of Evidence: Written assignment(s), usually scored by a rubric

Target:
80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on the analytical part of related case studies and/or assignments of the IET 671 course.

Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
Fifteen students completed all the case studies for IET 671 course. Each student was required to complete on five case studies.

Findings: Only 13 out of 15 students (86.67%) students' scored 80% or better on the analytic part of related case studies of the IET 671. Therefore, the achievement target was met.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Add Demonstration Case Studies
Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
The target was met. To continue improving the program additional demonstration case studies will be included in the course.

M 6: Group Project in IET 571
In IET 571, students will effectively communicate systems analysis and modeling work through well written report and verbal presentation.

Source of Evidence: Project, either individual or group

Target:
80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on written and oral component of IET 571 group project. (Scale: 100-90% = Advanced, 89-80% = Adequate, 79-70%=Minimally Acceptable, <70% Unacceptable)
Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
There were 24 students in IET 571 class offered in the fall of 2013 who completed the course requirements. About 83.3% (20 out of 24) of the students received 80% or better on the written and oral sections of the group project of IET 571 course.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Invite Peer to Group Presentation to Provide Constructive Comments
Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
The target was met. To continue improving the program a peer faculty will be invited to the group presentation to provide addi...

SLO 4: Transportation and Trade Policy
Students will be able to analyze transportation and trade policy and evaluate their impact on systems.

Related Measures:

M 7: Midterm Examination in IET 570
In IET 570, students will examine various trade & transportation rules and policies in their domain.

Source of Evidence: Writing exam to assure certain proficiency level

Target:
80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on the policy section of midterm exam of IET 570 course. (Scale: 100-90% = Advanced, 89-80% = Adequate, 79-70% = Minimally Acceptable, <70% Unacceptable)

Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
There were 23 students in IET 570 class offered in the spring of 2013 who completed the course requirements. About 87% (20 out of 23) of the students received 80% or better on the policy section of the midterm exam of IET 570 course.

Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):
For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

Update Material on Policy Content
Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
The target was met. To continue improving the program updated policy material will be added to this course.

M 8: Case Study in IET 672
In IET 672, students will analyze the impact of various trade & transportation rules and policies on the national and global context.

Source of Evidence: Written assignment(s), usually scored by a rubric

Target:
80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on case study 4 related to transportation selection for cost optimization in IET 672 course. (Scale: 100-90% = Advanced, 89-80% = Adequate, 79-70% = Minimally Acceptable, <70% Unacceptable)

Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met
In IET 672, 17 out of 19 (89%) students received more than 80% in all Case Analysis.

SLO 5: Integration of Core Competencies
Students will have the ability to integrate core competencies of the LTT program and become competent in solving real world problems in their domain.

**Related Measures:**

**M 9: Comprehensive Exam**

In comprehensive exam, students will be able to integrate essential concepts (core competencies) to successfully perform discipline tasks.

Source of Evidence: Comprehensive/end-of-program subject matter exam

**Target:**

80% of the students' score will be 80% or better on the integrated question on core competency section of MS comprehensive exam that covers all LTT core courses. (Scale: 100-90% = Advanced, 89-80% = Adequate, 79-70%=Minimally Acceptable, <70% Unacceptable)

**Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met**

There were 16 students who attend the MS comprehensive exam in 2012-2013. 100% students' score was 80% or better on the integrated question on core competency section of MS comprehensive exam.

**Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):**

For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

**Begin Moving Comprehensive Exam to Online Format**

*Established in Cycle: 2010-2011*

The target was met. To continue improving the program the multiple choice portion of the comprehensive exam will be moved to B...

**M 10: Exit Survey**

Exit Survey Students will develop confidence in performing real world tasks and demonstrate meaningful application of essential knowledge and skills. An exit survey will be administered to graduating students. These surveys will ask questions regarding the person's own perception regarding his/her ability to solve real world problems and their current employment information.

Source of Evidence: Exit interviews with grads/program completers

**Target:**

8 out 10 students' responses upon graduation will be 4 or better, where 5= Very Satisfied 4=Satisfied 3=Somewhat Satisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Dissatisfied.

**Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met**

Five (17) students graduated and took the exist survey. 94% (16 out of 17) were 'Very Satisfied' or 'Satisfied' with their confidence to 'Solve Real World Problems' skills. 100% (17 out of 17) were 'Very Satisfied' or 'Satisfied' with their confidence to 'Apply Essential Knowledge and Skills'.

**Related Action Plans (by Established cycle, then alpha):**

For full information, see the Details of Action Plans section of this report.

**Exit Survey Development and Deployment**

*Established in Cycle: 2010-2011*

An "Exit Survey" will be developed and deployed during the 2011-2012 Academic Year

**Other Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans**

**O/O 6: Student Enrollment**
Students enrollment in the program will be tracked.

**Related Measures:**

**M 11: Student Enrollment**
Institutional data will be used to track student enrollment in the program

*Source of Evidence: Existing data*

**Target:**
The number of students enrolled in the program should increase 1 to 4 students from previous year using as the base of comparison the spring semester.

**Findings (2013-2014) - Target: Met**
There were 22 students enrolled in the program during Spring 2013 and there were 27 students enrolled in the program during Spring 2015. This is an increase of 5 students and therefore the target was met.

**Details of Action Plans for This Cycle (by Established cycle, then alpha)**

**Add Demonstration Case Studies**
The target was met. To continue improving the program additional demonstration case studies will be included in the course.

*Established in Cycle: 2010-2011*
*Implementation Status: Finished*
*Priority: High*

**Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):**
*Measure: Assignments in IET 671 | Outcome/Objective: Systems Analysis and Modeling*

**Add Variable to Analytical Section of IET 571**
The target was met. To continue improving the program additional variable(s) on the analytical section of the course and final exam will be included.

*Established in Cycle: 2010-2011*
*Implementation Status: Finished*
*Priority: High*

**Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):**
*Measure: Final Examination in IET 571 | Outcome/Objective: Operations, Management and Leadership*

**Implementation Description:**
Math questions on the final and midterm exams were modified with new variables.

**Responsible Person/Group:** MD Sarder
**Additional Resources Requested:** None

**Begin Moving Comprehensive Exam to Online Format**
The target was met. To continue improving the program the multiple choice portion of the comprehensive exam will be moved to Blackboard so the students can take it directly on-line.

*Established in Cycle: 2010-2011*
*Implementation Status: Finished*
*Priority: High*

**Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):**
Develop and Deploy Exit Survey
An "Exit Survey" will be developed and deployed during the 2011-2012 Academic Year

Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Exit Survey | Outcome/Objective: Integration of Core Competencies

Exit Survey Development and Deployment
An "Exit Survey" will be developed and deployed during the 2011-2012 Academic Year

Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Exit Survey | Outcome/Objective: Integration of Core Competencies

Invite Peer to Group Presentation to Provide Constructive Comments
The target was met. To continue improving the program a peer faculty will be invited to the group presentation to provide additional constructive comments to the students on their oral presentation skills.

Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
Implementation Status: In-Progress
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Group Project in IET 571 | Outcome/Objective: Systems Analysis and Modeling

Implementation Description: Faculty colleagues are being given access to group presentations for their critical feedback.
Projected Completion Date: 08/30/2015
Responsible Person/Group: Dr. MD Sarder

Offer IET 670 Fall 2011
IET 670 will be offered during Fall 2011

Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Research Project in IET 670 | Outcome/Objective: Planning and Strategies

Implementation Description: It is offered in the Fall.

Plan to extend time to complete each case study
The students had one week to complete each case study for IET 671. The plan is to provide ten days for each case study. Total number of cases could be reduced to seven cases by combining few case studies into one group.

Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
Implementation Status: Finished
Update Material on Policy Content
The target was met. To continue improving the program updated policy material will be added to this course.

Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Midterm Examination in IET 570 | Outcome/Objective: Transportation and Trade Policy

Implementation Description: The policy materials were updated.

Update Materials on Modeling
The target was met. To continue improving the program new materials will be updated in the course regarding modeling.

Established in Cycle: 2010-2011
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Case Analysis in IET 615 | Outcome/Objective: Planning and Strategies

Including additional variable(s) on the analytical section of final exam
The target was met. To continue improving the program additional variable(s) on the analytical section of the course and final exam will be included.

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Final Examination in IET 571 | Outcome/Objective: Operations, Management and Leadership

Implementation Description: The exams are being modified with variables.

More challenging projects
Objective was met. To further improve the quality of research project, students will be given contemporary and challenging topics.

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High

Relationships (Measure | Outcome/Objective):
Measure: Research Project in IET 670 | Outcome/Objective: Planning and Strategies

Implementation Description: Students are being guided to select challenging research projects.

Recommend Using USM’s Writing and Speaking Center
The target was met. To continue improving the quality of writing and presentation skills, students will be highly recommended to use USM’s Writing and Speaking Center.
Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High
Implementation Description: Students are being directed to USM writing and speaking centers.

Re-Deploy Exit Survey
The "Exit Survey" will be maintain as previous Academic Year and will be deployed again during the 2012-2013 Academic Year

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High
Implementation Description: Standardize the process of conducting comprehensive exam. The target was met. The comp exam was conducted online but had some issues. To continue improving the program the comp exam process will be standardized in terms of schedule setup, grading, and reporting in the graduate school.

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High
Implementation Description: The "Exit Survey" will be maintain as previous Academic Year and will be deployed again during the 2012-2013 Academic Year

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High
Implementation Description: The "Exit Survey" will be maintain as previous Academic Year and will be deployed again during the 2012-2013 Academic Year

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High
Implementation Description: The target was met but continuous improvement plan is in place. The target was met. To continue improving the program updated policy material will be added to this course.

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High
Implementation Description: Policy materials were updated.

Update/Add two new learning modules IET 672
I will update and/or add two new modules in IET 672

Established in Cycle: 2011-2012
Implementation Status: In-Progress
Priority: High
Projected Completion Date: 08/30/2015
Responsible Person/Group: Dr. Rahman

Highly recommend to visit USM writing and speaking center at least once in the semester
The target was met. To continue improving the program students will be highly recommended to visit USM writing and speaking center at least once in the semester.

Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
Implementation Status: Finished
Priority: High
Implementation Description: They are being directed to use those centers.

**Students will be given research topics that are in still evolving**
Objective was met. To further improve the quality of research project, students will be given research topics that are in still evolving.

- Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
- Implementation Status: Finished
- Priority: High
- Implementation Description: Students are being guided to select contemporary topics.

**Variability will be added in the analytical section of the final exam**
The target was met. To continue improving the program additional variable(s) on the analytical section of the final exam will be included.

- Established in Cycle: 2012-2013
- Implementation Status: Finished
- Priority: High

**Add Dynamic Programming Method to IET 615**
Add to IET 615 Dynamic Programming as method to optimize resource allocation

- Established in Cycle: 2013-2014
- Implementation Status: Planned
- Priority: High

- Projected Completion Date: 08/30/2015
- Responsible Person/Group: Dr. Rahman

**Add Hybrid Delivery Method to Selected Courses**
Selected courses will be offered in hybrid/face to face format to accommodate international and non-traditional students.

- Established in Cycle: 2013-2014
- Implementation Status: Planned
- Priority: High

- Implementation Description: Additional, learning experiences will be added to selected courses
- Projected Completion Date: 08/31/2016
- Responsible Person/Group: Dr. Sarder

**Analysis Questions and Analysis Answers**

**What specifically did your assessments show regarding proven strengths or progress you made on outcomes/objectives?**
The 'Exit Survey' responses indicate that the content quality and the delivery format have been very well received by the graduates of the program. The 'Exit Survey' indicates that 100% (17 out of 17) students were either 'Very Satisfied' or 'Satisfied' with the ‘Critical Thinking’; ‘Communication Skills’; and 'Overall' preparation that USM has provided for the graduates to effectively carry out all job tasks.

**What specifically did your assessments show regarding any outcomes/objectives that will require continued attention?**
No particular attention is needed to any objective.

**Annual Report Section Responses**
Program Summary

Tremendous growth in Logistics, Trade and Transportation (LTT) has created great career opportunities of LTT graduates. Ever growing LTT sector encompasses the movement of goods and people (logistics) through the most effective and efficient means (intermodal transportation) to achieve economic development (trade).

The Master of Science in Logistics, Trade, and Transportation (MS LTT) supports the University of Southern Mississippi's vision to emerge as the premier research University of the Gulf South -- engaging and empowering individuals to transform lives and communities. The MSLTT supports the University vision by empowering professionals to meet the growing demands of transportation management and related careers in the Gulf Coast Regions, Nationally and Internationally. The faculty and students are engaging in externally funded research from several organizations including U.S Department of Transportation, the National Science Foundation, and the Mississippi Economic Council among others.

The MSLTT learning outcome focused on five subject matter areas derived from industry's input. These five subject matter areas also supports Southern Miss' mission to cultivate intellectual development and creativity through the generation, dissemination, application and preservation of knowledge. The MSLTT five subject matter areas are: 1) Planning and Strategies; 2) Operations, Management and Leadership 3) Systems Analysis and Modeling; 4) Transportation and Trade Policy and 5) Integration of Core Competencies.

The MS LTT is an interdisciplinary program which is comprised of 30 total credit hours. This LTT program can be completed in one year and customized to meet career advancement needs. The MS LTT courses are delivered in several flexible formats including on-line, in-person, and executive/hybrid format to allow practitioners to continue to work while pursuing the degree.

The MS LTT provides its graduates with necessary tools and critical understanding of supply chain management, economics, finances, and the practice of contemporary global air, maritime, and land transportation systems. A graduate of the MS LTT program will have a competitive advantage due to the fact that it is an interdisciplinary program that seeks to develop leadership in both the public and private sectors and prepares its graduates to operate in an ever more demanding global economy.

The MS LTT is envisioned to have a particular emphasis on north-south multi-modal trade through the Americas and would serve a niche not addressed nationally by logistics/transportation education and research centers; the career cluster for transportation, distribution, and logistics and targets Administrative Services Managers, Chief Executives, Logisticians, Managers, and Transportation, Storage, & Distribution Managers.

Continuous Improvement Initiatives

The leadership of the Master of Science in Logistics, Trade and Transportation (MS LTT) continuous working to identify elective courses that could increase the students' options and enhance the students' learning experience.

Selected courses will be enhanced with funds from a National Science Foundation grant to improve the learning experience in the MSLTT.

Closing the Loop

All ten (10) achievements targets were met in this cycle. The following Action Plan have been finished successfully: Add Demonstration Case Studies, Add Variable to Analytical Section of IET 571, Develop and Implement Comprehensive Exam On-Line, Develop and Deploy Exit Survey, Update Modeling Materials, Add more Challenging Projects, and Recommend USM's Writing and Speaking Center. The faculty indicate that these action plan had a positive effect in the students learning experience. Additionally, the success of achieving all the targets could be partially attributed to the successful completion of the action plan.

Progress have been done in two action plan and they remain "In Progress": Invite Peer Group Presentation to Provide Constructive Comments, and Update/Add two new learning modules IET 672. Two new action plan were planned: Add Dynamic Programming Method to IET 615, and Add Hybrid Delivery Method to Selected Courses. The leadership team will focus their attention to finish the "In Progress" and "Planned" action plan.