



ABET Workshop 1

Outcomes Based Education

Programmatic Accreditation and the Assessment of Student Learning & Outcomes

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Michael K. J. Milligan, PhD, is the CEO of ABET, a global quality assurance organization focused on college and university programs in STEM disciplines, lifelong learning and the assessment of student learning.

Prior to joining ABET in 2009, Milligan was a systems director at the Aerospace Corporation, leading a team at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center developing the next generation environmental satellites for NOAA. Milligan served over 24 years as a career U.S. Air Force officer working in operations, engineering education, international research & development, technology acquisition.

Milligan earned his Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin, his M.S.E. from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, and his B.S. from Michigan State University — all in electrical engineering. He also earned an M.B.A. in Business Administration from Western New England College, is a registered Professional Engineer (PE) in Colorado and Maryland, and a Certified Association Executive (CAE). He is also a certified Master Naturalist for the state of Maryland.

This seminar will focus on the approach ABET uses for accrediting engineering, engineering technology, computing and applied and natural science academic programs. Topics include the philosophy, principles and processes for obtaining ABET accreditation. In addition, we'll discuss the student learning outcomes that help support educators in developing programs that are both fundamentally sound and adaptable to rapidly changing industry demands.

ABET is a nonprofit, ISO 9001 certified quality assurance organization. Through the accreditation of academic programs, recognition of credentials and assessment of student learning, we support excellence in education worldwide. ABET currently accredits over 4,850 individual academic programs in 42 countries around the world and inspires confidence in those who aim to build a better world.