



**WPI**

# Approaches to Assessment and Evaluation

**Paula Quinn**

*Center for Project-Based Learning*

**Pan African Materials Institute**

**MS4SSA: Mathematics and Science for Schools in Sub-Saharan Africa**

**July 11, 2017**

**African University of Science and Technology [ AUST ] | Abuja, Nigeria**

# We know what assessment and evaluation are

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## Assessment

- Determining academic readiness, learning progress, skill acquisition, educational needs
- Determining opinions, attitudes, feelings, or perceptions

## Evaluation

- Using assessment data to make a judgment about the effectiveness or worth of a curriculum or program

# Why are assessment and evaluation important?

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**Data are powerful!** They can help us understand...

- What students know and do not know
- What students think or feel about something
- What teachers think of the training they received
- The extent to which a curriculum was implemented the way it was designed to be implemented
- How things might have changed over time
- Why things might not have happened as expected

# Why are assessment and evaluation important?

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## And understanding can lead to...

- Improvement
- Opportunities to disseminate findings and share successes
- Opportunities for continued or new funding

# What kind of assessment and evaluation are involved with MS4SSA?

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The specific data gathered will depend on what you will be doing:

- PSI with NJCTL
- PMI with NJCTL
- Materials Science Modules with WPI
- Robotics Modules with WPI
- Project-Based Learning with WPI

# What kind of assessment and evaluation are involved with MS4SSA?

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But the sources of data will be similar, regardless:

- Student surveys
- Student test scores
- Teacher surveys
- Teacher test scores (content knowledge and pedagogy)
- Information on implementation (when, how, how much, challenges)
- Demographic information

# **What kind of assessment and evaluation are involved with MS4SSA?**

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# Why are formative data on student understanding the most important?

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Formative assessment data on student understanding are the most important because...

**A teacher's understanding of what his or her students know or don't know—and a teacher's follow up on that knowledge—is at the very heart of successful teaching and learning.**

# MS4SSA Data Gathering Logistics

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We will work with you to do the following:

- Articulate your project goals and outcomes
- Outline data needs to address those goals and outcomes
- Develop protocols for gathering and sharing data
- Develop approaches for interpreting and reporting data