

1046-A5-1615 **Rich West*** (rwest@fmarion.edu), Department Of Mathematics, Francis Marion University, PO Box 100547, Florence, SC 29501. *Portfolio Assessment of General Education Mathematics*. Preliminary report.

Having used portfolios now for over fifteen years, I have found them to be a valuable instrument for assessment of student learning, program assessment and most recently general education mathematics. In this talk I will outline a two course college algebra sequence and the assessment plan we use to assess student learning. Included in this plan are portfolios. This two course algebra sequence satisfies the general education requirements in mathematics for most non-science majors. In designing the two course college algebra sequence, we established ten goals for student learning. For the last three years, I have assessed these courses by using stratified sampling and review of the course portfolios for input into the department's institutional effectiveness report. The department has found this assessment valuable to inform program design and structure changes. Last year the university institutional research folks requested quantitative data to compare years. I chose to continue the portfolio assessment and utilize a six point scale for assessing the ten course goals. I have three semester's results which I will address from three perspectives: student learning, program assessment, and institutional general education. (Received September 16, 2008)