More than 90 percent of U.S. colleges and universities currently conduct or plan to conduct assessment activities. While assessment practices have been described in numerous books and journals, no one has yet attempted to report systematically on the outcomes of this decade of assessment activity. Are faculty teaching more effectively? Are students learning more? Is the student experience fuller and richer? The ultimate question has remained: is assessment really making a difference?

Based on a survey of assessment coordinators at 115 institutions widely known for their work in outcomes assessment, Making a Difference presents a comprehensive account of both the best practices and the important, and sometime difficult, lessons learned in outcomes assessment. The book brings together detailed first-person accounts by some of the most successful practitioners in the field to show how assessment findings have been used to improve programs, student services, and student learning.

(Book Jacket)
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