

Institutional Effectiveness Monthly Report



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Office of Planning & Assessment

June 2023



PROMOTE SUCCESSFUL ASSESSMENT INITIATIVES ACROSS CAMPUS

RPT Planning for Academic Year 23-24

Texas Tech University recently acquired the new software module from Watermark called RPT: Reviews, Promotion, & Tenure. This software interacts with the work that TTU has already completed to develop the Faculty Success environment that we use for Annual Faculty Reviews and accreditation reporting. RPT will allow us to develop specific workflows, templates, and schedules to be able to rollout and implement procedures surrounding Promotion & Tenure at TTU. This comes from a recognized need to standardize and digitize aspects of this process University-wide.

OPA met with Vice Provost for Faculty Success, Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, to discuss the tenets of P&T at TTU and to develop a template for the process that can be utilized in FS. This half-day conference meeting was incredibly helpful and gave OPA a better focus for implementing this new strategy. We had already completed a few templates to demonstrate that we could use in building a new overarching procedure for P&T. At the conclusion of the meeting, OPA developed an action plan for developing and implementing this process prior to the January 2024 goal we have set.

First, we will be meeting with all department chairs as part of our annual assessment meetings, but we will also request the departmental standards for their P&T process. As these are rolling in, we will be requesting the same from Deans of colleges. This will allow OPA to develop templates for every department and college which needs some level of customization. When we have completed at least a few of these templates, we will be able to test and run the

procedure and look for any issues while also presenting this to the appropriate administrators for approval.

Adding to this, Jennifer and Kenny attended the Watermark Engage 2023 conference from June 13 to June 15, in which they were able to discuss RPT and other components of Faculty Success with peers and Watermark employees.



EDUCATE: TEACH OTHERS ABOUT THE VALUE OF ASSESSMENT

Institutional Assessment Planning

The Office of Planning and Assessment will conduct the second annual Communication Literacy data collection during the Fall 2023 semester. We are working with Institutional Research and the Office of the Registrar to collect a more accurate list of Communication Literacy courses, which was the primary challenge of our first data collection in 2022. We are also updating the survey to provide greater clarity to faculty on what data is needed and how to best report those data. We hope that a more accurate list of courses and clearer data collection process will provide better results as we collect the information for accreditation purposes. We plan on collecting data starting September 5th, 2023.

OPA will administer the TechQuest assessment to first-year students on October 2nd, 2023. We have received an updated set of questions for the Social and Behavioral Sciences section, but other sections of the assessment remain the same. We hope to discuss further changes to the assessment with the Core and Multicultural Curriculum committee later this year. Our goal is to match or exceed responses from the 2022-2023 academic year, which totaled to almost 2,000 responses between first-year and Senior TTU students.

The spring 2023 Core and Multicultural Curriculum data collection was our most successful since the system was overhauled in Fall 2021. We received very few emails with questions or issues from the survey, had a larger percentage of responses before the deadline, and continued to reach out to course directors to simplify the data submission process. No major updates to the survey are currently planned as its current optimization provides excellent results. The fall 2023 administration will begin on November 14th, 2023.



AWARENESS: ADVANCE ASSESSMENT-RELATED INITIATIVES ON CAMPUS

Reaffirmation Planning

The Office of Planning & Assessment is in active reaffirmation planning mode! We remain in conversations with reaffirmation authors regarding their narratives, and second drafts will be submitted to the OPA office by January 30, 2024. Below is a list of accomplishments and achievements for the 2022-2023 academic year:

- Assigned appropriate TTU faculty and staff to each of the 40 required differentiated review standards
- Met with each reaffirmation author to set expectations and to provide resources
- Organized a TEAMS site as a central information repository
- Collected first drafts on January 30, 2023
- Provided feedback to reaffirmation authors regarding their first drafts
- Communicated with authors about the second draft deadline, which is January 30, 2024
- Developed a university-wide strategy for compliance with Core Requirement 7.1 (Institutional Planning)

Hiring Update

OPA has selected a candidate for the Senior Administrator for Academic and Non-Academic Assessment and are working on extending a formal offer letter. We have contacted professional references and are finalizing HR paperwork before the offer letter is sent, but we are excited about the candidate and will share more information at the appropriate time.

Our candidate search for the Senior Administrator for Institutional Assessment is going well, but we have not begun formal interviews. We are continuing to reach out to our professional networks to share information about the position and hope to begin interviews in late July.