# November 2022 Institutional Effectiveness Monthly Report

# Prepared by the Office of Planning and Assessment

## *OUTCOME 1: PROMOTE SUCCESSFUL ASSESSMENT INITIATIVES ACROSS CAMPUS.*

**FS Graduate School Trainings**

The Faculty Success Trainings for the Graduate School were hugely successful. We had over 600 attendees between the 3 sessions. Jennifer walked the many graduate students through the system as well as the various directors and coordinators who are also invested in graduate student success.

During the meeting, we fielded questions in chat and received record troubleshooting emails regarding access and other FS-related requests like account management.  It is encouraging to see such a large number of students trying to complete these tasks.

**FS Inclusivity Updates**

During the training sessions the question came up about gender identity.  Admittedly, this is a section of Faculty Success that has not been reviewed in some time.  Due to the request OPA reached out to the TTU Title IX Coordinator, Kimberly Simón, and the director of the Office of LGBTQIA Education & Engagement, Gilbert Carrasco.

During these meetings OPA learned of the different options needed to be serve our diverse community.  The changes that we made to Faculty Success include:
1. Removing the dropdown options and instead providing a blank text field for Prefixes, such as Mr., Dr., etc.

    Prefix (e.g., Mr., Dr., Professor)

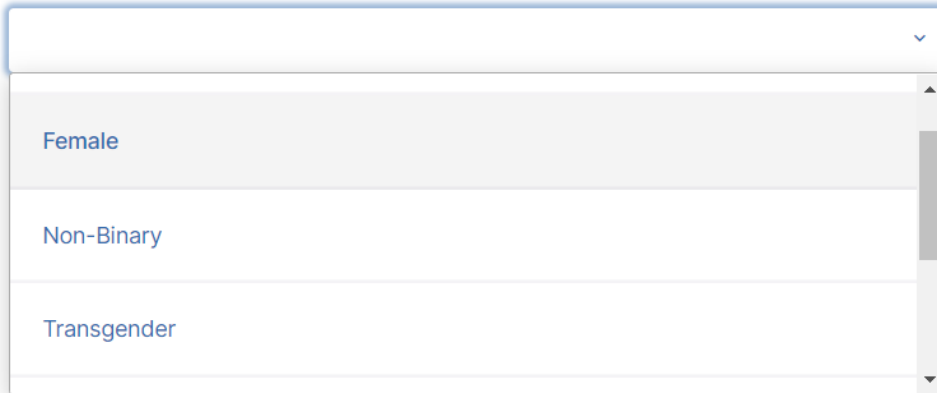2. Providing a preferred pronouns section, which is also a blank text field

Click here to request name change

**Preferred Pronouns**

[                                                              ]

**Alternative Name You Publish Under (e.g., an anglicized name), if any**

[                                                              ]

3. Updating the dropdown options for Gender and providing a blank text field

**Gender**

[                                                          ∨ ]

Female

Non-Binary

Transgender

It is easy to overlook sections of FS that aren't used often or that only need to be entered once. In going through the various options on the Personal and Contact Information screen, OPA will review some of the other options that may be unintentionally exclusive and collaborate with the respective offices that help keep TTU inclusive.

**Faculty Success Faculty Committee**

At the beginning of the term, OPA sent out requests for representatives from departments and colleges to serve in a Faculty Committee with the purpose of reporting to OPA about how faculty are using FS at any given moment. OPA has heard of many ways that faculty and departments operate FS, including how they manage reporting times, but we want to really understand and make changes that best suit how the system is actually being used.

Our first meeting is scheduled for the week of November 14th, and we are very pleased with the representation across campus, including departments that are both academic and support.

**PURE Innovations**

Jennifer and Kenny met with Nathan Rogers in Application Development and Support.  During this meeting, we reviewed the query and behind-the-scenes of both FS and PURE to determine where additional avenues for metrics can be developed.  In FS, for example, there is a more distinctive section for faculty awards and fellowships, and patents and copyrights.  In PURE these are bundled together in other areas.  Likewise, in PURE, there is a more robust featureset for Media Contributions.

Since this meeting FS has added been updated to include some of the additional metrics that are captured in PURE to better bridge this gap, which will improve the data on the TTU Scholars site.

**Update on Student Mental Health Data Analysis**

OPA conducted a broad analysis of NCHA data from the previous administration in 2020, right before lockdowns due to COVID-19, compared to the most recent administration in 2022. The goal was to create a "big picture" slide deck that would show both the changes in students' self-reported mental health and create interest in teasing out data by student demographics. After meeting with Dr. Gregory and his staff, we are making a few adjustments to the slide deck, and drilling down on a few categories based on gender, classification, race/ethnicity, and other demographics provided in the 2022 NCHA data set. After those adjustments and further investigations, we will present the slide deck and data to the QEP committee on November 18th which we hope will demonstrate the need for our QEP topic and help the committee narrow our focus for maximum effectiveness. Below is a chart that visualizes the dramatic changes in students' psychological distress before the lockdowns due to COVID-19 and the most recent reports from spring 2022.
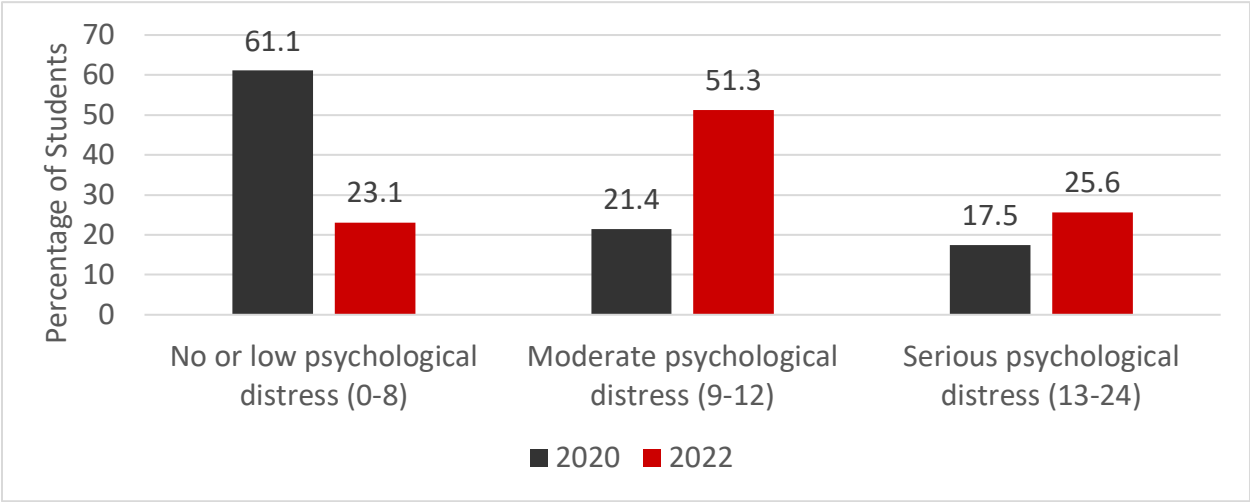
# *OUTCOME 2: EDUCATE: TEACH OTHERS ABOUT THE VALUE OF ASSESSMENT.*

**Compliance Numbers for Academic/Non-Academic Units**

Almost all Assessment Plans & Reports are submitted to OPA for Academic Year 2021-2022! We also had excellent compliance from Degree Programs and from all Support Service units. This year, we had 96% of units reporting by the end of October. In comparison, last year, we had 87% of units reporting. The focus on timely reporting will benefit OPA as it begins the assessment review cycle and prepares the University for a new and improved online assessment platform.

Notably, 36% of our Degree Programs had a significant change in leadership, leading to a delay in gathering assessment data. Furthermore, many of these leadership changes have led to revamping the program's Assessment Plan to be more meaningful and reliable than in years past. So next year's reporting is anticipated to be even better!

# *OUTCOME 3: AWARENESS: ADVANCE ASSESSMENT-RELATED INITIATIVES ON CAMPUS.*

**Transition to Nuventive Improvement Platform**

In late September, our office was notified by Nuventive that effective September 30, 2023, Nuventive Improve will be retired and support will end.  Nuventive staff will instead migrate all current clients to the Nuventive Improvement Platform which will allow for analytics capabilities and new services such as strategic planning and peer review. OPA staff have started conversations with Nuventive to prepare for the transition to the Platform with the goal of being fully transitioned in Spring 2023 before program coordinators begin reporting assessment results for the 2022-2023 assessment cycle.

**Marketable Skills Letter Distribution**

OPA maintains a list of marketable skills and student learning outcomes by degree program for students to use on their resume and job applications, housed at https://www.depts.ttu.edu/opa/studentsparents/index_sp.php. To bring awareness to this feature, OPA will email graduating seniors at the beginning of December directing them to this website so they can

showcase their skill for their post-college career. OPA contacted IT to distribute the message, who then put us in contact with Eileen Gianiodis to distribute it as part of the Provost's communications office activities.  The letter that will be distributed to students is below:

Dear Texas Tech Student:

Did you know that Texas Tech maintains a list of marketable skills and student learning outcomes that you can use on your resume or job applications?  For example, here are some marketable skills that you could put on your resume:
- Critical thinking skills that you have gained from internships or shadowing experiences
- Expert-level knowledge in a software program specific to your major
- Teamwork experiences learned within your major or your co-curricular activities
- Interpersonal communication skills that you've developed from working in groups or alongside your TTU professor

Click here to locate your home college, and then find the marketable skills within your degree program. Each student learning outcome is categorized as an interpersonal skill, a cognitive skill, or an applied skill.

Show us what you're doing in your current job or internship!  If you'd like to share your marketable skills with the Texas Tech community, use the hashtag #TTUmarketableskills.  Let us know if you post to this hashtag by emailing opa.support@ttu.edu, and we'll send you a sticker to thank you!

Wreck 'Em!
The Office of Planning and Assessment