

# Institutional Effectiveness Weekly Report



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## January 7, 2022

Outcome 1

The Office of Planning and Assessment will contribute to Texas Tech University's ongoing compliance with all external accrediting agencies and State of Texas mandates.

### Plan for Annual PAR Analysis

It is that time of year again where the OPA appraises degree programs' annual planning assessments. It is an exciting time as it gives us a chance to take a close look at programs and learn how they are improving. This year we will review 156 graduate programs. OPA has divided the 156 program assessment plans amongst three employees who are trained in the PAR rubric. Last year we reviewed all undergraduate programs. So, during this review, we will look at 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 combined. It is estimated that OPA will finish their PARs by mid-March and host Program Chair Meetings during the month of April.

### Update on Non-Academic Assessment Reports

SACSCOC has updated its standards to make non-academic programs a higher priority. After reading about these changes, it is OPA's goal to assess the student experience across the entire university and not simply within the higher profile units. To ensure we have complete department assessment coverage, OPA recommends including the following programs as part of the Annual Non-Academic Department Assessment Plans:

Athletics  
Department of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
International Affairs  
Risk Intervention and Safety Education  
Title XI  
eLearning and Academic Partnerships  
Institutional Advancement  
Institutional Research  
Office of Research & Innovation  
Office of the Provost

Payroll and Tax  
Safety and Security  
Student Financial Aid & Scholarship  
University Outreach and Engagement  
President's Office  
Provost's Office  
Texas Tech Alumni Association

Outcome 2

Texas Tech University faculty and staff will be well-prepared to meet OPA's faculty credentialing, assessment, and strategic plan expectations.

## Update on THECB Marketable Skills Reporting

Earlier this week, Dr. James confirmed the following information as part of the University's Accountability System submission to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Section	Question Description	Answer
Marketable Skills	Number of programs with identified marketable skills	268
Marketable Skills	Number of programs without identified marketable skills	0
Marketable Skills	Describe how your institution helps students identify and communicate their marketable skills to employers and share any recent modifications your institution has made in how you identify marketable skills for your students.	** see text below

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### **Whether your institution has created and implemented a process for identifying marketable skills**

In Spring 2021, the Office of Planning and Assessment conducted a qualitative analysis of 2019-2020 student learning outcomes in all 268 Texas Tech degree programs, excluding certificate programs and non-credit programs. All student learning outcomes were classified using the THECB's definition of applied skills, cognitive skills, and interpersonal skills. Student learning outcomes were not coded into discrete categories; thus, they could be coded into multiple categories. Of all student learning outcomes, cognitive skills (54%) were identified most often as a marketable skill, followed by applied skills (32%) and interpersonal skills (14%). Chart 1 presents an analysis of student learning outcomes and their respective THECB classification.

## **Brief description of said process.**

Texas Tech's process is guided by four main activities: 1) identification of marketable skills within degree-level student learning outcomes; 2) creation of a students and parents webpage that displays the marketable skills that students can expect to attain; 3) collection of testimonials from recent Texas Tech graduates, and 4) electronic dissemination of a student-oriented letter, drafted by OPA staff, but distributed under President Schovanec's name in early Fall 2021 that alerts students to where they can locate their degree-specific marketable skills.

## **The number of programs in which marketable skills have been identified**

All 268 degree programs have at least one marketable skill identifies within the degree program's expected student learning outcomes.

## **OPA Giveaway Packets to Department Chairs, Associate Deans, and Committee Members**

OPA's student assistant will be preparing welcome back packets to department chairs, associate deans, and members of the Student Support Level Committee and the Institutional Effectiveness committee. The packet will include some OPA giveaways and a list of OPA-specific deadlines. We recognize that this is a challenging time for returning faculty, and so we hope to spread some New Year's joy!



The Office of Planning and Assessment will continually monitor the university's compliance with laws, policy statements, and policies deriving from the State of Texas, THECB, and SACSCOC.

## **Business Coordinator Hiring**

OPA is in the final stages of reference checking for the top Business Coordinator candidate. After providing the reference check form to Human Resources, we can then proceed with an Offer Letter.