

# Institutional Effectiveness Weekly Report



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

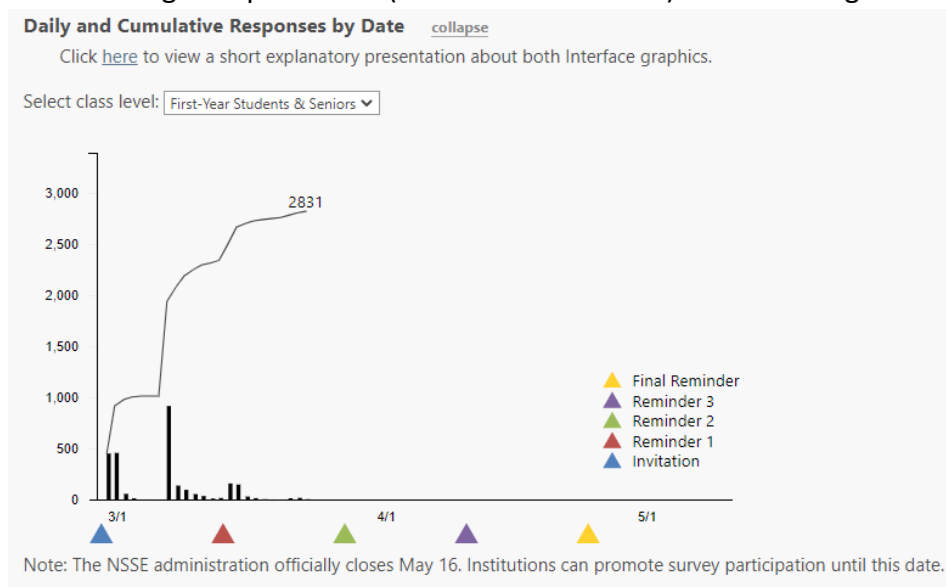
## March 26, 2021

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.

### NSSE Update

Our response rate for the NSSE continues to grow as we approach the third reminder email which will go out on Monday, March 29th. As of Wednesday, March 23rd, the response rate is 17.3% with 2,253 completed and 578 partials, for a total of 2,831 responses. Currently, there are 1,217 more responses than the previous NSSE in 2019. We are 4.7 points ahead of the national average for our school size and on track to surpass the final average of 21% response rate by the end of the survey window. The NSSE closes on May 16th, but our final reminder will go out on April 26th, so we still have about 5 weeks left of prime response time. We are continuing to distribute 10 backpacks a week to students that complete the NSSE and will hopefully receive the signed sports balls (additional incentives) in the coming weeks.



OPA created a brief Qualtrics questionnaire to get feedback from students that completed the NSSE to learn what most motivated them to take the survey. The questionnaire was sent out to

2,237 students on Tuesday, March 23rd, and by Wednesday, March 24th, more than 260 students had completed the survey. Early responses indicate that students were motivated most by incentives, the initial NSSE invitation from President Schovanec, the Blackboard reminder created by Eesysoft, and NSSE reminders, while social media posts, physical fliers, and outside emails were the least influential. Students also indicated that scholarship incentives would be the most desirable offering, but the backpacks and sports balls also ranked highly. We also saw from early results that most students had a good idea of the time requirement and types of questions that would be asked from the NSSE, likely meaning that we are effectively communicating those expectations to students through the initial email, reminders, and pre-survey instructions. These results will help us capitalize on the successful 2021 NSSE by focusing on what worked best with students for the next survey in 2023.

### SB810 Possible Implications

A newly proposed Bill, Senate Bill 810 or SB 810 for short, has been introduced to the Texas State Senate. If passed, SB 810 will alter some of the required parts of House Bill 2504. The implementation date of SB810 would be September 1, 2021. The most notable changes are:

- 1) The stipulation that undergraduate classroom courses require a syllabus has now been removed, which would indicate graduate courses will now be monitored for compliance. This may also indicate that previously excluded courses, such as labs or research-based instruction, may also need a syllabus.
- 2) Website changes are less restrictive but may need to be updated should the bill pass. Shatley believes that TTU currently follows the new stipulations already, but we should ensure correct labeling. One of the most significant changes to the website requirements is in subsection f, which stipulates THECB deadlines for review of compliance.
- 3) We need to update the addressees in our January 1 HB2504 compliance letter. The new bill requires the compliance letter also be sent to the THECB.

Presently, TTU does not require graduate course syllabi for the purposes of HB2504 compliance or as a general procedure, but many departments have implemented their own systems for keeping graduate-level syllabi on file. The Law School has such a process, for example.

In terms of completing this part of the process, TTU has a good system in place for communicating to chairs and deans when compliance is not met, but a communication campaign to faculty will help ease the transition. In recent months, new projects have increased faculty involvement and administrative buy-in for Digital Measures. As we complete these projects and more faculty are using DM, we believe much of SB810 will fall into place naturally.



## Outcome 2

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

### Modifications to TTU-CR Assessment Reporting

To better equip TTUCR for program assessments, we have begun discussion regarding how best to organize these multi-campus programs in Nuventive Improve. Ideally, both the Lubbock campus and the Costa Rica campus will have equal access to their program's self-evaluation structure including its Student Learning Outcomes and its Assessments. The results and improvement plans, however, will be listed separately for each campus. This separation allows programs to sort reports for both domestic and international accreditation purposes.

### Analysis of Faculty Hiring Demographic Data

OPA staff were asked by two Faculty Fellows in the Office of the Provost to perform an analysis of historical faculty demographic hiring data. Jennifer Hughes met with Drs. Raegan Higgins and Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo earlier this week regarding their request. Currently, Hughes is looking more closely at the data to determine how OPA can best assist.

### Marketable Skills Reporting

OPA staff are in the process of classifying current student learning outcomes into the THECB definition of marketable skills. According to the CB, "marketable skills include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas, are valued by employers, and are primary or complementary to a major." Texas institutions are required to 1) identify and document the skills offered in their programs, 2) communicate those skills to students, and 3) update documented skills on a regular basis. We expect to have all student learning outcomes coded by the end of May 2021, and then we will subsequently update this information on the *Students and Parents* page on the OPA website.



### Outcome 3

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.

### TxAHEA Update

The TxAHEA Planning Committee resumed our monthly meetings this month after putting a few items on hold due to the SACSCOC Fifth Year Report. As of Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, we have received a total of 28 proposals submitted. We currently have a soft submission deadline of April 1<sup>st</sup>, with a hard deadline of April 15<sup>th</sup>. We are continuing to market these deadlines on various listservs with the hopes of receiving about 15-20 more submissions.

The Keynote Speaker committee has been in contact with our top candidate, and we should know if he will be able to be our keynote speaker in about 2 weeks.

Due to our successful fall and spring webinars, the TxAHEA Planning Committee plans to offer webinars through Summer 2021 and Fall 2021. We have several topics in mind, as well as possible panels that we feel will continue to provide our colleagues with continuing education opportunities. And, the webinars are a fantastic way to promote the upcoming Fall 2021 TxAHEA conference!

### Thank You Gifts to FYI Authors and Contributors

OPA staff is currently collecting the names of contributors to the Fifth Year Report. We expect to have a complete list of contributors by next Tuesday, March 30. After receiving these names, we will distribute a thank you note and a TTU water bottle to each person.