

Institutional Effectiveness Weekly Report



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

April 9, 2021

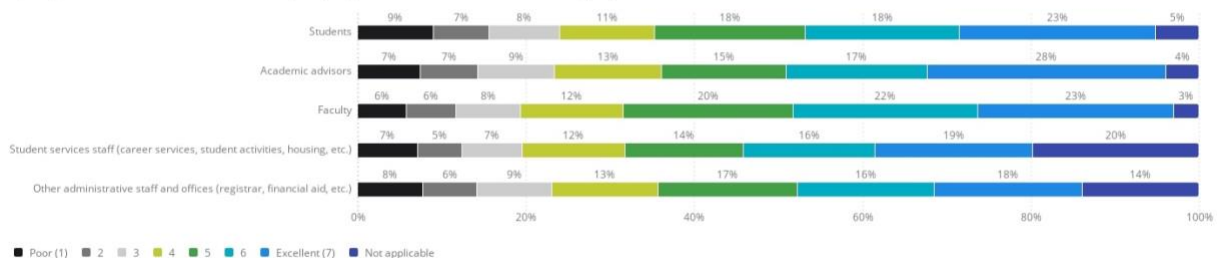
Outcome 1

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 Pulse

The NSSE Pulse was a free survey provided at the height of the pandemic in October and November of 2020 to help colleges and universities adapt to the rapidly changing educational landscape caused by COVID outbreaks, online learning, and social distancing health guidelines. With over 1,300 responses from Texas Tech students, the NSSE Pulse reveals some interesting effects on student life caused by the pandemic. From the 2020 Pulse, Texas Tech learned that 2 out of 3 students said their courses challenged them to do their best work, over 80% of students said their technology hardware and internet connection were sufficient in participating in online courses, and 74% of students said their experience at Texas Tech so far was either “excellent” or “good.” We also learned that 80% of students said the university was keeping students safe and healthy during the 2020 school year and 89% of students said they felt comfortable being themselves at Texas Tech. Those responses represent less than half of the survey items that students were asked, and thanks to the NSSE Pulse format, all the reports and data can be filtered by classification, race, residency, and whether their parents have a 4-year degree. In addition to Texas Tech results, NSSE also provided all participating institutions with access to nationally aggregated data so they could see how their schools compared to national averages. While the COVID-19 pandemic presented novel difficulties and challenges, the NSSE Pulse can help Texas Tech evaluate its attempts to provide excellent education, create policies to ensure health and safety, and do our best to foster a sense of belonging during the unprecedented year. We hope to use the data further with departments and offices on campus to evaluate our post-pandemic performance regarding online-learning, social connection to faculty and peers, and prioritizing the well-being of every student, faculty and staff member.

Quality of Interactions Items: Indicate the quality of your interactions with the following people at this institution. 1,173 Responses



Preparation for Summer 2021 HB 2504

The Summer 2021 House Bill 2504 Deadlines are now listed on the OPA website.

Summer I: June 10th

Summer II: July 14th

Summer at TTU is unique to other institutions in that we recently changed from two summer sessions to one primary summer session. While HB 2504 does not differentiate for these sessions, the THECB allotted for unique semesters by making the law the 7th class day.

As a function of the Summer deadline, Digital Measures will begin importing courses soon. There are some issues with the current query, so after discussing these issues, we will request the import to begin for Summer and Fall courses. This also allows faculty to begin uploading syllabi and will coincide with student advanced registration.



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

Consideration of iWebfolio Replacement


OPA staff are looking at a replacement software platform for iWebfolio. Although this platform served us well for several SACSCOC cycles, we hope to find a more user-friendly software that provides more options for displaying images. The current version of iWebfolio does not allow "free form" editing in the way that we prefer. We will keep Dr. James apprised of our software options.

Pi2 Program Data File

On Thursday, April 8, OPA staff returned an Excel data file to Dr. Allie Smith, Pi2 program director. Dr. Smith requested anonymous student ethnicity data on program participants earlier this semester. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of our office and the Office of Institutional Research, we were able to complete Dr. Smith's data request.

New Faculty Orientation Changes

Earlier this week, Jennifer Hughes attended a meeting concerning changes to New Faculty Orientation (NFO). OPA has historically participated in NFO and the Faculty Resource Fair for at least 10 years. We expect to still participate in NFO, although we will likely be preparing just-in-time videos and electronic materials. We may also participate in a Fall 2021 workshop series for new faculty.



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 Proposals

We are excited to announce that as of Friday, April 9 we have a total of 56 proposal submission! This is a record number of proposals. After the April 15th proposal submission deadline, members of the Proposals Committee will begin reviewing and scoring the various proposal submissions to determine which ones will be accepted.

TxAHEA Keynote Speaker

Dr. Tim Brophy, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Music Professor at the University of Florida, has accepted the keynote speaker invitation. Dr. Brophy will speak on "Fairness and Equity in Assessment" at the 2021 TxAHEA Conference.

Summer 2021 Higher Ed Intern in OPA Office

This summer, OPA will host a Master's-level student during Summer I and Summer II. The internship is unpaid, but will count towards the student's internship requirement. The student is a current Texas Tech employee who works full-time as a Financial Analyst. She has permission from her home department to work in our department. The internship is four hours per week.

Distribution of Thank You Gifts to Fifth Year Authors

To thank authors of the Fifth-Year Report, OPA purchased insulated tumblers with the Fifth-Year logo. These tumblers will arrive around the beginning of May. OPA will deliver drink tumblers with a thank you note acknowledging the hard work and tireless effort that was put into compiling TTU's responses.

