Institutional Effectiveness Weekly Report

![Texas Tech University logo]

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

December 17, 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.

HB 2504 Spring 2022 Deadline and Preparations

Spring 2022 HB2504 Deadline: January 20th, 2022

Fall terms at TTU and Faculty Success tend to reveal areas of improvement between our data systems. This year has been unique for Faculty Success, as OPA has been working with numerous departments to update, maintain, and improve the system through a few major projects. Many of these changes have gone into effect already or will be in effect for the Spring 2022 term.

OPA will communicate the following major changes to the site during scheduled communication ahead of the Spring term in January. Major points to communicate include:

1. The name change from Digital Measures to Faculty Success will be more prevalent from OPA in 2022. The original announcement of the name change came as a surprise to OPA after a similar software name change to Activity Insights during the initial phases of COVID-19. OPA was hesitant to rename promotional materials at the time but will begin pushing the name change in communications and promotional materials. We will continue using the name Digital Measures following Faculty Success until the Fall term.

2. The query to import faculty and teaching data has been massively overhauled over the past few months. OPA sought to make changes to improve the frequency of updates to previously stored data. This includes enrollment numbers, college and department affiliations, and faculty/staff rank. Previously this information was not mapped or scheduled to update on a regular basis. This left a number of accounts incorrectly categorized and requiring significant manual work. While some manual work is still

expected with these changes, the overwhelming majority of faculty and units will see an improvement in the accuracy of data stored in Faculty Success.

3. Graduate Student Expansion Project Testing is in full swing. OPA and ADS were able to design a query that focuses on non-employee students. This project in conjunction with the Graduate School will initially bring in PHD students from Biological Sciences, Kinesiology and Sport Management, and Personal Financial Planning only. After testing the system in the Spring, we intend to open this up to all Graduate students at TTU.

4. Continuous improvements to reports and screens are always under way, and a few new reports and new screens were developed to help departments tell their story. Some of these include categorizing and developing new metrics for the School for Veterinary Medicine, updating reports and reporting behavior for Kinesiology and Sport Management, and working with non-academic departments to develop efficiencies for reporting their work with faculty, such as the High-Performance Computing Center and the Office of University Outreach and Engagement.

OPA will continue to offer trainings in the Spring term and work with departments to organize and maintain their Faculty Success records.

QEP Preparations

OPA looks forward to its role in selecting the next 2025 QEP topic. OPA staff are currently reviewing newly released guidelines on QEP reporting from the SACSCOC 2021 Annual Meeting. These guidelines inform our current and future work, and we recommend the following actions:
- January 2022 – Inform the Provost and CFO of upcoming QEP budget needs; QEP should be in preliminary/pilot implementation in Fall 2024; Hold meeting with Provost to consider his strategic priorities and how a possible QEP topic might fit with leadership goals
- February 2022 – Recruit faculty and staff to serve on QEP Topic Exploration Committee; OPA to provide significant staff support to this effort
- Spring 2022 – Fall 2022 – QEP Topic Development Committee explores recommendations provided by University-level Institutional Effectiveness Committee; QEP Topic finalized by Thanksgiving 2022; QEP Director position posted by December 2022 and hopefully hired by March 2023

Outcome 2

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

Core Curriculum Update

OPA's collection of Core Curriculum assessment data is continuing to yield results, with 333 submissions as of December 16th. We also received data from course coordinators and professors for larger courses, most notably ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302, which contain 179 unique sections. Working with course coordinators helps reduce the chance of data duplication and improves data quality. In 2022, OPA will develop working relationships with all course coordinators for large courses to provide tools and methods of data collection that will hopefully improve data collection and quality. We also did not need to contact any instructors on incorrect data, meaning some of the changes made to the Core Curriculum survey during the summer are also improving data collection and quality. OPA learned of an issue with a Qualtrics setting that was prematurely marking some surveys as "Submitted" before they were completed by faculty, but this setting was changed and should not cause issues moving forward. We also have a short list of changes we can make to the Qualtrics survey to improve its ease of use and response clarity. Although the deadline for data entry was December 15th, our office is working with the Core Curriculum Committee chairs to contact instructors in their respective fields and will continue to collect responses until all data is submitted. Our goal with the Core Curriculum survey is to improve data collection and quality, reduce potential errors, and make data submission as painless as possible for all 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.

Update on Business Coordinator Recruitment and Hiring

Jennifer Hughes and Libby Spradlin will be interviewing two potential candidates for the open Business Coordinator position. The position has been publicly posted for more than two weeks, and we have identified two qualified candidates. Initial phone screens have been completed, and the two candidates will be interviews on Monday, December 20. A hiring decision will not be made until consultation with Dr. James.