Awards & Recognitions

The Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement (DIDECE) presents the Spring 2016 Newsletter which highlights many of the DIDECE’s programmatic initiatives, the DIDECE’s growth and expansion, and the university’s work toward academic and inclusive excellence.

This semester, the DIDECE received several awards and recognition for our efforts that reflect success in the area of diversity and our continued commitment to access, equity and excellence.

- Commitment to Diversity Award, Minority Access Inc.
- Texas Diversity Council, Diversity First Award
- Diversity Champion Award, INSIGHT into Diversity Magazine:
  - only one of 10 schools in the United States to receive this award
  - the only school in Texas to receive this recognition
- INSIGHT into Diversity Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award
- Qualified for Final Four of College Chess, the National Collegiate Championship Playoff
Awards & Recognitions

- TTU Chess won the Pan-American Chess Championship for the first time
- PEGASUS: Selected as a Bright Spot in Hispanic Education by the White House Initiative on Education Excellence for academic outreach to Hispanic students
- 2016 Best for Vets Colleges, Military Times
- 2016 Best for Vets Business School, Military Times
- Military Advanced Education: Top Colleges & Universities
- GI Jobs: Military Friendly School
- Upward Bound: Selected as a Bright Spot in Hispanic Education by the White House Initiative on Education Excellence for academic outreach to Hispanic students
- Mentor Tech received national recognition from the Education Trust’s report on graduation rates among black students
- Women’s Studies awarded TECAID, an award granted for facilitation and collaborative work with the College of Mechanical Engineering
- Hispanic Outlook listed Texas Tech University on its annual list of the Top 100 Institutions for Hispanics based on degrees awarded
College Readiness

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT
• Collaborated with LISD to host AVID night for students in and around the Lubbock region

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
• Created new summer partnerships with GEAR UP and LULAC NESC

IDEAL
• Collaborated with 37 individual schools within Lubbock county to promote academic awareness and opportunities for K-12 students

UPWARD BOUND
• Provided academic programming and college preparation courses to 220 students served through the Lubbock Region

Campus Inclusion

CROSS-CULTURAL ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT CENTER
• Collaborated with units within the DIDECE to welcome over 1,885 students, faculty, and staff to programming geared towards success through engagement, leadership, and social change as an initiative of the Diversity U Program

PEGASUS / DIDECE
• Hosted the third annual Diversity Week Kick-Off Mixer to celebrate the importance of diversity among the Texas Tech community with 626 faculty, staff and students in attendance.

MILITARY VETERANS PROGRAM
• Continued to provide support services and resources to members of MVP with the addition of the Stars and Stripes Lounge which serves as a study and social area for military members, veterans, and family

HSI Initiative

SCHOOLS SERVED: 92
STUDENTS SERVED: 1,228

• To support Texas Tech University’s goal of becoming an Hispanic Serving Institution by the fall of 2016, PEGASUS, Mentor Tech, the Office of Community Engagement, IDEAL, and the Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center have worked strategically with the Office of Admissions on outreach and engagement efforts aimed at students from schools with high populations of Hispanics. In pursuit of this goal, the Division has increased awareness, interest in, and application to Texas Tech University by students who identify as Hispanic/Latino and/or Chicano.
By the Numbers

CCAAC Student Outreach – Event Programming Attendance
Chess Student Outreach
IDEAL K-12 College Readiness Outreach
Mentor Tech Academic Workshops - Attendees
Mentor Tech Student Socials - Attendees
MVP - Students Receiving Federal Benefits
MVP - Students Receiving State Benefits
OCE (K-12) - Students Served
OAE - Collaborative Outreach Efforts with LISD: MS/HS Served
PEGASUS Academic Workshops - Attendees
PEGASUS Social Student Programming - Attendees
Student Support Service - Tutoring Session
UIL Regional Academic Competition Participants
UIL Regional Athletic Competition Participants
Upward Bound Academic Saturday Attendance
Women’s Studies Course Enrollment

Student Support

PEGASUS
- Offered 108 workshops and events designed to support the academic retention and student life success of First Generation College Students program participants

MENTOR TECH
- Offered 34 academic and social events to support retention for proteges in the program

MVP
- In an effort to ensure that all service members, veterans, and their family members are successful academically, MVP conducted 753 individual academic certification sessions with new and transfer students and over 1,390 individual or online academic certification sessions with continuing students during the spring semester

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
- With funds received as a result of meeting the target number of students under the SSS grant, Upward Bound has conducted 364 individual academic and career advising sessions and provided 582 individual in-person and online tutoring sessions to assist student academic progress and success
A TIME TO CELEBRATE ALL WALKS OF LIFE

As students returned to campus from Spring Break, the university held its third annual Diversity Week. The weeklong celebration started off with a kickoff mixer, hosted by the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, to celebrate the importance of diversity among the Lubbock and Texas Tech University communities. Over 620 faculty, staff, and students had the chance to celebrate their roots while engaging in conversations and networking in a setting to foster inclusion among the various cultures that exist at Texas Tech University.
UPWARD BOUND

The Upward Bound Program received a $1.1 million five-year TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) Grant to serve first-generation, students at the post-secondary level. TRiO SSS provides personalized advising, leadership development, and a supportive community focused on empowering students to succeed.

MENTOR TECH

The 14th Annual Mentor Tech Celebration Banquet was held on April 22nd with 650 in attendance. Actress, singer, producer and activist, Tatyana Ali served as the keynote speaker. During the banquet, participating students and their mentors were recognized for their academic accomplishments as graduating seniors and those who excelled academically last fall.

PEGASUS

Throughout the month of February, students had the opportunity to attend “Conversations with the Next Generation,” a speaker series that features First Generation College (FGC) students who have unique backgrounds, passions, and stories. The purpose of this series is to have speakers encourage Texas Tech FGC students and to serve as real and relatable examples of what success, despite hardships, can look like. With over 930 in attendance, the goal is for each FGC student to walk out of our events with more hope, knowledge, and passion than they did when they walked in.
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Office of Community Engagement strives on fostering a college achieving culture for K-12 students through programs and partnerships not only in the Lubbock community but across the South Plains region. Over the spring semester, the office has expanded outreach and engagement efforts to include districts and students from across the state including the Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio, and Austin, as well as bordering districts in New Mexico. OCE has also expanded its Raider Life summer residual program which provides students with an immersive college experience that introduces them to college life at Texas Tech University. This program is supported in part by the Texas Tech Alumni Association.

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

Texas Tech UIL hosted the Lubbock ISD A+ District Meet with an increase in participation by 14% and events participated in by 19%. For this event, UIL welcomed 1,634 students from 23 elementary schools and 7 middle schools to the Texas Tech campus.
THE INSTITUTE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT & ENRICHMENT OF ADVANCED LEARNERS (IDEAL)

During the spring semester, IDEAL hosted 200 students in the educational Super Saturdays program geared towards curriculum-based programming distinctly designed to challenge and engage K-12 students in fields such as science, art, math, and technology. Additionally, for the 2016 summer, IDEAL was awarded $20,000 from the CH Foundation and Haliburton Foundation to provide young girls the opportunity to attend the Science: It’s A Girl Thing summer camp.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Through mentoring and peer group networking, the Advanced Placement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Ambassadors of Tech served over 8,000 AVID middle and high school students. Through a strong working partnership between AVID for Higher Education at Texas Tech University and AVID at Lubbock ISD, each entity is able to provide students, faculty, and staff with resources and training to accelerate student learning and to strengthen the AVID P-16 pipeline.
MILITARY & VETERANS PROGRAM (MVP)

For the spring semester, MVP was instrumental in coordinating the 42nd annual Texas Association of Collegiate Veteran Program Officials (TACVPO) Conference from March 7-11, 2016. The conference included 157 officials representing institutions of higher learning from across the state of Texas. Bernice Flett, MVP Unit Coordinator, who served as Vice President this past year, was elected and will serve as 2016-2017 TACVPO President.

WOMEN’S STUDIES

In April, the Women’s Studies program hosted the 32nd Annual Conference for the Advancement of Women, in which Carrie Hessler-Radelet, Director of the Peace Corps, served as the keynote speaker. The purpose of the conference is to bring together women scholars on gender and women to share ideas, research and activities with a wider audience.
CHESS

The nationally-ranked TTU Chess program won the Pan-American Chess Championship for the first time, in addition to being recognized for other national, state, and regional honors. The TTU Chess Team also qualified for the Final Four College Chess tournament for the third year in a row.

CROSS-CULTURAL ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT CENTER

In the spring, the CCAAC hosted Diversity U, a continuation of the fall 2015 installment. The Diversity U program is a group of events and activities that focus on a particular theme. This year, the theme was “Success through Engagement, Leadership and Social Change”. The purpose of this program is to encourage participation and ongoing dialogue regarding issues of diversity and equity on campus while providing students with clear and evident resources to foster personal growth and global communication. This year, Diversity U has welcomed 1,885 students, faculty, staff and community members through its variety of events and programming.