PEGASUS Points of Success for 2008-2009

The PEGASUS Program has once again undergone changes in program format strengthening its ability to remain an important resource for FGC students.

- Received 250 applications for the PEGASUS Program.
- Attendance at Welcome Event over 200, largest number in program history
- Recruited the largest number of participants this year at 180
- Provided intrusive advising; both academic and for challenges specific to FGC students and their families that included face-to-face contacts, emails and phone calls.
- 112 FGC Freshmen took the College Student Inventory (CSI) and 90 of these students were seen for one-to-one intrusive advising appointments.
- 98% retention rate for first to second year at TTU, for participating freshmen FGC students who met all the participation requirements. The overall retention rate for all participants was 94% compare to the TTU Freshmen population at 80%.
- Mentors were retained at 97% compare to the university population at large of 86%.
- PEGASUS participants who met the participation requirements average GPA of 3.0, and the overall grade point average for program participants was 2.8; which is above the university average GPA of 2.38 for freshmen and the national average GPA for FGC students of 2.5 (National Center for Education Statistics).
- PEGASUS Mentors cumulative average GPA was 3.0 compared to TTU undergraduate at 2.66, another testament to the influence of the program on its students’ success.
- Mentors logged 4910 mentoring and outreach hours, an increase of 755 from FY08
- Personal contacts made by Mentors totaled 12,363
- Paid $34,375.25 in hourly wages to FGC Mentors
- Awarded $53,506.00 in grant funds to provide $30,000.00 in scholarships and $23,506.00 in program support to hire additional Mentors and serve more TTU FGC students
- Awarded 40 FGC Freshmen with $750.00 Scholarships
- Reducing the need for these academically at-risk students to be over-employed (working 2-3 part-time jobs @ minimum wage) through scholarships and wages
- The PEGASUS Program Coordinator made two presentations about the TTU PEGASUS Program at the fall 2008 National NACADA Conference in Chicago, Illinois.
- The PEGASUS Program Coordinator was asked to lead the FGC Interest Group at the Regional NACADA Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana in May 2009 and also presented the TTU PEGASUS Program at this conference.
- Created and/or continued partnerships both on campus and in the community to forward the program’s mission. These partnerships include The Texas Tech Visitor’s Center, Office of Admissions, Office of Financial Aid, Center for Campus Life, Career Center, Upward Bound, IDEAL, Raider’s Rojos; South Plains College, South Plains Tech Prep, Western Texas College, Amarillo College, Angelo State University, South Plains Closing the Gaps Coalition, Workforce Solutions of the South Plains, LEARN, Lubbock Boys-N-Girls Club, Buckner’s Children and Family Services, and area Jr. Highs and High Schools.

In summary, with seven years of deliberate investment in FGC freshmen and their Student Mentors, PEGASUS once again can add graduation as a measure of accountability to determine its impact on students who have participated in the program. Of the first four classes of PEGASUS, 83% have graduated or are on track to graduate from Texas Tech. This is above the university average of 56% graduation rate for 2008-2009.