Institutional Effectiveness Weekly Report
December 13, 2019

The Office of Planning and Assessment reports its weekly activities and contributions toward Texas Tech University’s institutional effectiveness efforts and departmental objectives.

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.

Preparation for Fifth Year Report

Kahlie Callison and Jennifer Hughes convened a meeting with Lindsay Hallowell in the Office of Official Publications on Friday, December 13. Hallowell is preparing drafts for 10.2 and 10.3, and Callison and Hughes provided guidance on the evidence that is needed for compliance.

OUTCOME 2: Texas Tech University faculty and staff will be well-prepared to meet OPA’s faculty credentialing, assessment, and strategic plan expectations.

Assessment Innovation Grant Award Winners

OPA is pleased to announce the winners of this year’s Assessment Innovation Grant (AIG). This award is available to faculty and staff who are actively engaged in assessment activities within their department or unit. We awarded four $500 grants to individuals who demonstrated a commitment to innovative assessment practices within their department. This year’s winners are:

**Educational Psychology and Leadership:**
Jaehoon Lee, Assistant Professor and Associate Director

**Family and Consumer Sciences Education:**
Kristie Storms, Assistant Professor of Practice
Karen Alexander, Associate Professor
Architecture:
Dora Epstein Jones, Associate Professor and Chairperson

College of Education:
Lane Sobehrad, Research Associate
Marcelo Schmidt, Director of Assessment and Accreditation

Presentation at December Chair’s Council Meeting
Ashley Pruitt presented information about the procedures for Communication Literacy assessment at the December Chair’s Council Meeting on Wednesday, December 11. Pruitt shared that Department Chairs should expect to receive a personalized email in January 2020 asking them to complete a CL survey, or to forward the survey link to the appropriate personnel.
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.

2018-2019 Core Curriculum Annual Report

- The Core Curriculum Annual Report draft was finalized and distributed to Genevieve Durham-DeCesaro on Friday, December 13. The report provides an opportunity for Core Curriculum Committee Steering Committee members to reflect on the resulting data and propose actions for improvement. Furthermore, the report will provide a basis for faculty to revise thresholds of acceptability/assessment criteria.
Fall 2019 Core Curriculum Surveys

Earlier this week, Ashley Pruitt distributed Fall 2019 Core Curriculum Surveys to IORs and Course Coordinators. These surveys are conducted in Qualtrics, and the resulting data will be disseminated to the Core Curriculum Steering Committee.

Major Upcoming Digital Measures Interface Change

- Watermark is making a number of aesthetic and format changes over the course of December through January. Changes are primarily going to fill in some of the blank space on some screens by elongating text fields and drop-down boxes and enlarging some fonts. No function changes should be noticed for administrators.
- One major benefit of these changes is a specific attempt to make DM dynamically fit smaller screens, such as phones or tablets, much better.
- Texas Tech was subject to one minor glitch during the implementation of this rollout, which caused the Scheduled Teaching screen to temporarily lose functionality. This has been resolved.

Preparation for Annual Faculty Review Reporting

- Department Chairs and Deans are calling for faculty to enter all AY2019 and CY2019 data to be entered into DM for Annual Faculty Reports. Despite the end of the semester, this has meant an uptick in Digital Measures activity, especially from less frequent DM users.
- As a part of the AFR cycle, departments and administrators across campus have been contacting us about new fields to include in AFRs or parts of the AFR that appear to be missing. While this has meant more customer service and troubleshooting, the process and new issues are representative of faculty using the system more and working within DM not just for completion but for accurate reporting as well.
- Through OPA trainings and instructional sessions, multiple departments across campus have communicated desired changes to the Annual Faculty Report, which we believe will see more customization from department to department.