Comprehensive Standard 3.11.3 – Physical Facilities

The institution operates and maintains physical facilities, both on and off campus, that appropriately serve the needs of the institution’s educational programs, support services, and other mission-related activities. (SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation: Foundation for Quality Enhancement, 2012, Comprehensive Standard 3.11.3)

Findings of the Off-Site Committee:

*3.11.3 The institution operates and maintains physical facilities, both on and off campus, that appropriately serve the needs of the institution’s educational programs, support services, and other mission-related activities. (Physical facilities)

Non-Compliance

Texas Tech’s current strategic plan embraces several goals to increase and maximize resources including:

1. Conduct a comprehensive review of research and academic space renovation needs that directly support teaching and research missions.
2. Develop strategies for developing and maintaining shared facilities.
3. Develop a master plan to remediate deferred maintenance issues.

In October 2012, under the direction of the TTUS Chancellor, the presidents of Texas Tech and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) established a Master Planning Committee to update the 1997 Master Plan. The committee was charged with incorporating:

1. the current master plan and Land Use Map,
2. both institutions’ strategic plans, and
3. the TTUS Infrastructure and Service Planning Committee Conclusions.

While the narrative for this comprehensive standard stated that the campus master plan was updated in 2014, the Off-Site Committee was referred to a draft copy with no evidence of approval by the presidents or the TTUS. The draft included six principles for both institutions:

1. Enrollment Growth
2. Strengthen the Academic Core
3. Enhance Campus Identity and Sense of Place
4. Position Land Endowment Parcels for Strategic Initiatives
5. Open Space
6. Strengthen Campus Circulation and Connectivity

The objective of Principles 3 and 5 was further defined as "...to further build the
bonds between what is often perceived as two disparate campuses separated by the gulf of the Marsha Sharp Freeway.”

Texas Tech’s Information Technology Division manages the institution’s technological infrastructure and monitors usage on a daily, weekly, monthly and annual basis. With regard to facilities, departments on the main campus may contact the Physical Plant service center directly for maintenance or work requests.

The Off-Site Review Committee was not provided any evidence regarding the institution’s operation and maintenance of facilities at off-campus locations or any technological infrastructure at off-campus instructional sites including distance education.

Texas Tech University’s Response:

Campus Master Plan

The off-site committee indicated that the Texas Tech University (Texas Tech or TTU) campus master plan “was referred to a draft copy with no evidence of approval by the presidents or the TTUS.” At the December 2014 meeting of the Board of Regents, with the concurrence of each institutional President, the Board approved the campus master plan [1].

Operation and Maintenance of Facilities at Off-Campus Sites

Most of the facilities at the regional teaching sites (e.g., off-campus instructional sites) are owned by other entities. For example, the Hill Country University Center Foundation, which is responsible for the maintenance of the facility, owns the facility at Fredericksburg. Texas Tech is responsible for its portion of the utilities, which is covered by the Texas Tech Physical Plant. A similar agreement is in place for the Highland Lakes facility in Marble Falls. This agreement is with the Marble Falls Economic Development Corporation. At the Waco site, Texas Tech has an agreement with McLennan Community College (MCC). Texas Tech pays a set facility fee of $25 per student credit hour for courses that are taught on the MCC campus. The facility fee allows for the use of the IT infrastructure and the library. Classes and labs, as well as the research activities of students and faculty at Texas Tech University – Waco, are conducted in MCC.
facilities. The maintenance of all of these facilities is the responsibility of the owners of the facilities.

A similar agreement is in place for the facility in El Paso; however, this agreement is with the city of El Paso. There is a utility fee that is paid by Texas Tech. Structural maintenance of the facility is the responsibility of the city of El Paso. However, the facility at El Paso is in the process of being renovated, with funding from a grant that was received by El Paso Community College and Texas Tech University.

The Center at Junction is owned by Texas Tech University. The Junction staff provides the minor maintenance of these facilities, while the Lubbock Physical Plant oversees the major maintenance projects. Photos of corrected recent maintenance projects in Junction are provided [links to Junction photos].

**Technological Infrastructure at Off-Campus Instructional Sites, Including Distance Education**

Texas Tech University IT Division manages the information technology (IT) infrastructure for off-site instructional locations and campuses, as well as for distance learning instruction, as an integrated component of Texas Tech’s wide area network, institutional information technology infrastructure, and associated services. In our enterprise data systems, off-site campuses, off-site instructional locations, and distance education are all coded and monitored by a collection of attributes at the student, section, and course level. Each student and section is assigned a primary location, and all associated activity is measured according to those physical location attributes.

From a technology perspective, off-site facilities are connected to the campus network directly, utilizing the most cost-effective methods available, including connectivity from the
Texas Lonestar Education and Research Network (LEARN), leased circuits, and in some cases third party Internet Service Providers.

The network diagram below illustrates the wide area network managed centrally by the TTU IT Division at Texas Tech University:
The Texas Tech University technology infrastructure allows all off-site locations, used for academic and research purposes, to be integrated components of a cohesive TTU network, governed by a common set of information resource policies. Bandwidth capacity and usage are monitored daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly, as demonstrated in the two sample charts below.

**Fredericksburg <-> Junction**

**GREEN ###** Incoming Traffic in Bits per Second  
**BLUE ###** Outgoing Traffic in Bits per Second

**Yearly Graph (1 Day Average)**

![Yearly Graph](image)

**Daily Graph (5 Minute Average)**

![Daily Graph](image)

*Note: The statistics for the above graphs were last updated on Wednesday, 3 December 2014 at 17:26.*

TTU IT services described in Comprehensive Standard 3.4.12 – Technology Use are also available to off-site locations. IT support staff located at the off-site location provide local IT support, with oversight and assistance from the TTU IT Division staff.

In addition, TTU has a legacy interactive video conferencing network in place at Fredericksburg, Marble Falls, and Junction. These locations are equipped with point-to-point video conferencing to the Lubbock campus using H.323 technology. Since the adoption of Unified Communications using Microsoft Lync across Texas Tech’s network, H.323 video conferencing usage has dropped off significantly in favor of the more feature-rich Microsoft Lync.
technology. The TTU Video Network Center provides monitoring and support for all these locations, as with on-campus facilities.

Conclusion

Texas Tech University provided the updated Campus Master Plan that was approved by the Board of Regents at its December 2014 meeting. Texas Tech also provided additional information and documentation on the operation and maintenance of its off-campus sites. Finally, Texas Tech described the IT technology infrastructure at its off-campus sites. Therefore, Texas Tech University is in compliance with CS 3.11.3.

Supporting Documentation and Evidence:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Source</th>
<th>Document Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Texas Tech University Approved Campus Master Plan</td>
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