

Spring 2005

DIVISION OF STUDENT  
AFFAIRS AT TEXAS  
TECH UNIVERSITY

## Student Life Research Newsletter

### Assessment & Student Life Research

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In the fall of 2004, the Assessment & Student Life Research became a new area within the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. Prior to this change, Student Life Research activity had been conducted from the Student Union Campus Activities area, and more recently, within the Center for Campus Life. The new area incorporates Student Life Research with Assessment for Student Affairs Departments. Please note that the new office address, phone and fax numbers are located in the box at left.

#### SURVEYS IN THIS ISSUE

- **Association of Fraternity Advisors/EBI Assessment Survey (AFA/EBI)**
- **Academic Integrity (AI)**
- **Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I)**
- **Cooperative Institute Research Program (CIRP)**
- **Collegiate Readership Survey (CRS)**
- **College Student Survey (CSS)**
- **National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS)**
- **National College Health Assessment (NCHA)**
- **National Survey Student Engagement (NSSE)**
- **Your First College Year (YFCY)**

#### TTU STUDENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENTS CONDUCT NATIONAL RESEARCH STUDIES

The Texas Tech Division of Student Affairs departments administer various types of assessments, evaluations and surveys within the course of the academic year. The value of the studies and their related findings is increasingly important due to university initiatives for continuous improvement, accreditation demands, and strategic planning reports. Not only do the national research studies help with required evaluation of existing programs and services, they help respective departments in the division target new student trends, areas of need, or special concern. This information, in turn, provides direction for future change. The surveys represent a commitment to providing continuous improvement in the educational experience of Texas Tech students. In this issue of the Student Life Research Newsletter an outline of national research studies conducted during the 04-05 academic year by various departments in Student Affairs will be highlighted. A list of the national surveys administered with brief information about each study follow:

**Association of Fraternity Advisors/Educational Benchmarking Incorporated (EBI) Assessment Survey (AFA/EBI)** This study surveys the individual performance of sorority and fraternity's; evaluates effectiveness of advising; worthwhile educational programming; and, if individual groups provide member satisfaction in academic achievement, philanthropy/community service, friendship, and involvement.

**Academic Integrity (AI)** Student Judicial Program survey that evaluates academic integrity programs and policies; explores attitudes of students, faculty, and administrators on each campus concerning academic integrity; and assesses the level of academic dishonesty among students. Also identifies areas that need strengthening in relation to development of specific plans for improving the campus climate for integrity, and can also create opportunity for campus-wide dialogue about integrity.

**Association of College & University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I)** The purpose of using the ACUHO-I/EBI survey is to assist residence life and universities in assessing student perceptions about various aspects of the residence life program with the goal of continuous quality improvement.

**Cooperative Institute Research Program (CIRP)** Incoming freshman survey that covers demographic characteristics; expectations of the college experience; the secondary school experience; degree goals and career plans. Also, college finances; attitudes, values, and life goals; reasons for attending college, and specific campus issues (by use of 20 additional questions).

**Collegiate Readership Survey (CRS)** Pilot study by invitation from Penn State and Educational Benchmarking Inc. that sought to establish analysis of readership behaviors, measurement of classroom use of newspapers in college readership programs, and to provide a benchmark for comparisons to other college of comparable size. Other items measured were the impact of newspaper readership in the teaching/learning environment and the effectiveness in achieving outcomes associated with the readership program.

**College Student Survey (CSS)** Evaluates student satisfaction (with coursework, faculty, staff, administrative services and campus life); collects information on academic and extracurricular experiences of college students (time diary of activity); measures retention (leave of absence, withdraw or transfer); facilitates understanding of students' values, attitudes, and goals, also studies specific campus issues (by use of 20 additional questions).

**National Association of College and University Food Services (NACUFS)** An annual Customer Satisfaction and Benchmarking Survey that is used as a tool to evaluate university dining operations to insure that they meet or exceed customer (student) expectations.

**National College Health Assessment (NCHA)** Student Health Services Survey is a national research effort organized to assist college health service providers, health educators, counselors and administrators in collecting data. Studies student habits, behaviors, and perceptions on the most prevalent health topics: alcohol, tobacco and other drug use; sexual health; nutrition, weight and exercise; mental health; injury prevention, personal safety, and violence.

**National Survey Student Engagement (NSSE)** Survey designed to obtain information from colleges and universities about student participation in programs and activities that institutions provide for their learning and personal development. The results provide an estimate on how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending college.

**Your First College Year (YFCY)** Designed as a follow-up to evaluate the impact of First Year Experience Programs, this survey is administered to second semester freshman. It provides information on academic and personal development of first-year college students by evaluating students' academic experiences; if the student plans to return for the second year; how well the students adjusted to their first year of college; and, how students spend their time. Also studies the values, attitudes, and goals of first-year students.



**“These surveys represent a commitment to continuous improvement in the educational experience of Texas Tech students.”**

~ Sandra Marquez Hall



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
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Student Affairs @ Texas Tech University

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