July 2023

SACSCOC Summer Institute

Bryson and Jennifer attended the SACSCOC Summer Institute. We both attended the QEP Assessment and Development Track, and found the information to be highly relevant, especially as we work to build the 100-page QEP proposal over the course of the 23-24 academic year. We also networked with our fellow participants, and were able to connect with other institutions who are developing wellness-related QEPs. Below is a picture of Jennifer and her fellow table participants!
Staff Retreat

All OPA staff participated in our Summer Retreat held at the Black Cultural Center. We primarily planned our Fall 2023 calendar, with specific attention to our professional development offerings. We’ve enjoyed stepping away from the office to focus on planning activities. Here is a picture of Kenny from the retreat. He’s concentrating!

Chair Meetings/PARs

Jennifer and Kenny have been conducting Chair Meetings with department chairs throughout the months of June and July. We have been focused on sharing the results of each undergraduate degree program’s Program Assessment Rubric, and showcasing the capabilities of Faculty Success’ Review, Promotion, and Tenure (RPT) module.

NSSE Work for Honors (Chloe/Bryson)

This month the Office of Planning and Assessment met with the Honors College in which they requested clarification and more specificity on the 2021 and 2023 NSSE comparison data. The Office of Planning and Assessment worked hard to produce documents and graphics that would express the data elements the Honors College was looking for, while also producing comprehensible and efficient information.
The data was broken up into subsections: The High Impact Practices (HIP) and Engagement Indicators (EI). A process began where we used student survey data to compare how different classifications of students responded to university prompted questions. The classifications of students were as follows: honors first year, honors seniors, honors total, TTU non-honors first year, TTU non-honors seniors, and TTU non-honors total. With the data organized and averaged, we were able to transfer it into Canva, where a series of bar graphs were made to express the data in a clear and organized manner. A bar graph was made for each individual survey questions related to the following categories: Service Learning, Learning Community, Research with a Faculty Member, Internship or Field Experience, Study Abroad, and Culminating Senior Experience.

Continuing with the HIP data, the Honors College wanted a clear comparison to how the honors students compared with the NSSE comparison groups, so a new section of graphs was produced. Using the NSSE 2021 High-Impact Practices Texas Tech University report, we created a new set of bar graphs in which the Honors College and TTU data was compared with the comparison groups: Southwest Public, Carnegie R1, and Large UG Enrollment. The data was represented using the same student classification groups.

The next section of data, the Engagement Indicators, followed a similar process to the HIP data. The scale of the data was not represented by percentages like the HIP. They were under the categories of High Order Learning, Reflective and Integrative Learning, Learning Strategies, Quantitative Reasoning, Collaborative Learning, Discussion with Diverse Others, Student-Faculty Interaction, Effective Teaching Practices, Quality of Interactions, and Supportive Environment. A bar graph was made using the same student classification groups from the HIP data. To ensure clarification of how this data was acquired, the breakdown of how the EI is scored was included on the under the bar graph for each category.

The NSSE comparison data was produced in the same manner. Using the NSSE 2021 Engagement Indicators Texas Tech University Report, the 10 categories were compares with the same comparison groups as before: Southwest Public, Carnegie R1, and Large UG Enrollment. The 2023 data has not been reported but will be presented at a later date.

Overall, the Office of Planning and Assessment is fully confident in delivering these documents and graphics to the Honors College and that it will fulfill their needs for a deeper look into the data and aid in making accommodations to continue to improve student success here at Texas Tech University.

ServiceNow (Kenny)
Following discussions with Central IT and the migration towards ServiceNow, OPA has provided the necessary information for a mid-August transition from use of the Footprints system to ServiceNow.

In the past, OPA has used Footprints to receive general questions and troubleshooting requests, typically for Faculty Success, though occasional other emails would make their way in. This
transition will allow OPA to continue a record of quick turnarounds for troubleshooting, but it will also provide a more efficient Knowledge Base. OPA staff have always been hard at work with presentations, blog posts, and videos. By having our own space in the ServiceNow environment, we can combine and categorize blogs, videos, and documents we create to archive and make more available the work that we have and continue to do.

ServiceNow’s transition is set for mid-August, during which time OPA will be trained in how to use the platform and develop content autonomously. ServiceNow contains an archive tool for allowing users to see help articles and similar while also providing a troubleshooting environment that will provide us similar information that Footprints allowed us.