Reaffirmation Updates
This week, we focused on building a QEP Topic Focus survey to distribute to committee members in early August 2022 (please see more detailed information below). Next week, we will begin preparing meeting objectives for each QEP meeting, so that we have clearly defined goals and outcomes.

Update on Administrative Support Efforts
After SACSCOC broadened their description of Support Services to distinguish Academic and Student Support Services from Administrative Support Services, OPA identified several departments and offices across campus that now needed to be included in the annual assessment process. These units are:

- Athletics
- Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Risk Intervention and Safety Education
- Title IX
- University Student Housing
- eLearning and Academic Partnerships
- Institutional Advancement
- Institutional Research
- Office of International Affairs
- Office of Research & Innovation
- Office of the President
- Outreach and Engagement
- Payroll and Tax
- Safety and Security
Jennifer and Kara have reached out to all new units with a broad overview of their new expectations. Kara has met with most of these groups to go over the process and the Nuventive platform. The primary responsibility of these programs in the first assessment cycle will be to report their Student Impact Outcomes and planned Initiatives to meet those Outcomes. In their second assessment cycle, these units will begin reporting results from their initiatives.

In July, Kara will meet with directors and assessment coordinators of Support Services that are already participating in the annual assessment process. These units are:

- Academic Testing Services
- Center for Campus Life
- Transformative Undergraduate Experiences
- Hospitality Services
- Office of Student Conduct
- Parent and Family Relations
- RaiderReady
- Recreational Sports
- Student Counseling Center
- Student Disability Services
- Student Government Association
- Student Health Services
- Student Legal Services
- Student Success & Retention
- Student Union & Activities
- Support Operations for Academic Retention
- Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development Center
- Transition & Engagement
- University Advising
- University Career Center
- University Libraries
- University Programs
- Data Management for Financial Resources
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Office of Communications
- Office of Planning and Assessment
- Office of the Registrar
- Operations Division
- Procurement Services
- Student Business Services
- Undergraduate Admissions
- United Supermarkets Admissions

In the meetings we will review their Assessment Plans and discuss their PAR scores. The primary purpose of the meetings is to continue our open-door policy so that all departments know our expectations as well as know that we are here to assist them in all assessment activity.
**QEP Survey Mock-Up**

We are working with the QEP Implementation Committee to get recommendations on a central focus for the QEP. Jennifer met with Eric Maki to discuss the Wellness Committee’s recommendations that they created, and out of those we identified two broad recommendations for students: 1) a central website location for mental health and wellness for students and 2) general mental health and wellness education for students. We created a survey in Qualtrics to get recommendations from committee members on what they think about these two options, while allowing them to submit their own ideas as well. Jennifer wrote an email invitation and guidance for the committee members, and then OPA created the survey to include the two recommendations, text boxes that allow for five additional recommendations from the committee member, and then a section where they can rank all options from best to worst. There is also an additional comment box for any other ideas, questions, or concerns they might have.  

You can access a preview of the survey here.

After we receive committee member responses, we will analyze their recommendations and rankings, and then share our findings with the committee members at our next meeting on August 23rd. We hope to use this analysis to better focus the QEP’s plans and goals moving forward.

**Teams Resources**

In preparation for the 2025 Reaffirmation and team leader meetings to be scheduled in August, OPA has created a Microsoft Teams site to be used to house resources for the team leaders to begin writing their drafts. Currently, OPA is locating responses from previous report submissions as a starting point for the Reaffirmation responses. OPA has transferred the final drafts from the 2020 Fifth-Year Report and is in the process of locating final versions from the 2015 Reaffirmation. Because the standards changed shortly after this Reaffirmation and because there were many iterations of some responses in the Focused and Monitoring reports, OPA is carefully combing through our files to crosswalk the responses to the current standards and ensure we are pulling the most recent versions. This should be completed by mid-July at the latest.
TxAHEA Update

TxAHEA continues to keep us engaged, and we are always looking for ways to keep attendees interested in the conference. Yesterday, Jennifer sent an informal invitation to past TxAHEA attendees to participate in a “shindig” at the upcoming SACSCOC Summer Institute.

Dear TxAHEA Friends:

I am writing to you as a past attendee of TxAHEA, and so I hope this message finds you well.

Are you headed to the SACSCOC Summer Institute in mid-July? If so, I’m planning a little drinks-only shindig at the Walt Disney World Dolphin Resort (the conference hotel). If you’re free, let’s meet at Todd English’s Bluestone Lounge inside the conference hotel on Monday, July 18th at 8:00PM. Here’s the link to the lounge: Todd English’s Bluestone Lounge - The Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort Restaurants - Disney restaurants, Orlando Restaurants (swandolphin.com).

You might remember that we gathered together back in 2019 at the Summer Institute in Dallas! I’m attaching some cute photos of Kim Fanis (UNT), Brandy Hawkins (ASU), Alison Soeder (TAMU-Commerce), and Paul Turcotte (UH). I didn’t get photos of everyone who attended, but I’ll make sure to capture everyone’s faces at our 2022 get-together. Of course, we haven’t aged since 2019 (myself included!!!) It’s a different world now, isn’t it, compared to 2019?

I hope you’re considering joining us again for the 2022 TxAHEA conference on the Riverwalk in San Antonio. In case you haven’t yet registered, here is the link to more information about this year’s conference: TxAHEA Conference.

Yes, this is a shameless plug for TxAHEA.

I’ll send another message closer to the Summer Institute, but I wanted to at least get this date and time on your calendar.

If you have any questions about this event, feel free to call me or text me at 806-470-5789. I hope to see you soon!

Your friend in assessment,

Jennifer

Jennifer S. Hughes, Ph.D.
Past President, Texas Association for Higher Education Assessment (TxAHEA)
Managing Director
Office of Planning & Assessment
Texas Tech University
(806) 742-1505
Jennifer.s.hughes@ttu.edu