Faculty Success Project Update: Grad School Expansion Project, HB2504, and the upcoming HB2504 Letter to the State of Texas in December

The Graduate School Expansion Project has unfortunately been delayed as we are working out issues with the import query that is affecting previous terms. Until these issues are solved, we will have to postpone the inclusion of new accounts, but expect this to go live as soon as possible.

Following the typical procedure for new terms, OPA has communicated with faculty missing syllabi. Due to the issues with the import, Chairs will be notified next week of those still missing syllabi, and Deans will be notified shortly after to account for any stragglers and to provide final counts.

Current missing syllabi percent is just under 9% missing of all sections. While this is low for deadline day, this is a great improvement over the previous Spring terms. I believe this is partially due to upfront communication by OPA of deadlines at the start of the year and continued reminders, but also as some of the procedures during the pandemic are becoming more commonplace.

In February, OPA will be sending out updated reports on missing Educational requirements for HB2504. This will help us to be prepared to draft the Letter to the State that we must send at the end of the year.
OPA’s Spring 2022 Professional Development Offerings

While we are still recruiting speakers for the Spring 2022 OPA Coffee Breaks, OPA has finalized the schedule for the Spring 2022 OPA Learning Series. Each presentation will be offered via Zoom and will be listed on the TLPDC event calendar to allow for participants to register in advance. The spring lineup is included below.

January 26th at 10:00am – Running your Annual Faculty Report
Everything you need to know about running your Annual Faculty Report in Faculty Success (formerly Digital Measures). This meeting will begin with a brief explanation of running your report and instructions for troubleshooting. The bulk of this meeting will be a walkthrough of running your Annual Faculty Report and identifying and editing sections that may need additional attention.

Annual Faculty Reports are generally due by January 31st but please check with your college. AFRs vary slightly from college to college but are generally designed to export any information in Faculty Success. We will go over the process of running a report followed by a brief explanation of how to identify and edit information. Your AFR is a representation of your work over the past year, so we want to help you put your best foot forward! Any and all are welcome to attend, whether you are submitting an AFR or just understanding the process for your faculty. We will have time afterwards for questions.

February 23rd at 2:00pm - Unlocking the Mystery of NSSE: Increasing Responses, Planning Ahead, and Utilizing Data
Every two years, TTU administers the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) to first-year students and seniors. The survey gathers data on how students spend their time and what they gain from the university. The Office of Planning and Assessment had our most successful NSSE administration in the spring and we recently received the results. Our learning series on NSSE explores those results and reports, how faculty and staff can use the data, and how we can continue to increase response rates in 2023. This session is for any faculty and staff that interact with students on a regular basis and want to learn more about student engagement.

April 26th at 3:30pm – Preparing for TTU’S 2025 Reaffirmation of Accreditation
In this session, Jennifer Hughes will discuss recent changes to SACSCOC’s Principles of Accreditation, and how they will specifically affect Texas Tech. Dr. Hughes will also discuss progress made on the selection of Texas Tech’s upcoming QEP, which will have a soft launch in Fall 2024. Come join the conversation!
Business Coordinator Hiring Update

OPA has formally offered the position of Business Coordinator to Ms. Aurelia Crider. Ms. Crider has previous professional experience in higher education at Knox College (Galesburg, IL), and she also has significant experience teaching piano and aquatics. Ms. Crider holds a B.S. in Zoology, with a minor in Music from Brigham Young University. We anticipate that Ms. Crider will begin at OPA February 1, 2022.