PAR Reviews

Program Assessment Reviews are underway! Three reviewers have been assigned to assess each degree program’s PA, giving each PA two reviewers. Overall, degree programs have improved in their monitoring of student learning throughout the past few years. The reviewers are over half-way complete, and we anticipate the reviews to be completed by the beginning of May. This deadline allows Kara a couple of weeks to analyze findings and compile official reports for Department Chairs by the end of May. These reports, as well as last years’ reports, will also be uploaded into Nuventive so that degree programs have an easy way to access their reports and compare the results from year to year.

Overall Update on NSSE/FSSE

As of Thursday, April 22nd, the TTU NSSE response rate is at 23.1% with 3,009 completions and 760 partials. The final reminder to students from NSSE will go out on Monday, April 26th, so we expect to see another bump in responses next week before the survey begins to slow down. We continue to collect more data from our NSSE marketing follow-up survey that will help us prepare for the 2023 NSSE. So far, we have received 559 responses to the marketing survey, which is about a quarter of all students that completed the NSSE. Our incentive distribution continues successfully with several students visiting OPA, TrUE, and FGTMP for TTU decals. We have even mailed a few decals to distance learning students that completed the NSSE and requested them, including students in South Carolina, Ohio, and Hawaii. We have distributed 45 backpacks and 2 signed footballs to students and 47 backpacks to faculty members who completed the FSSE. We expect to receive the remaining sports ball incentives by next week.
Our goal is to have 90% of all incentives distributed to students and faculty before the final day of classes on May 4th.

TxAHEA Proposal Review
OPA staff are participating in reviewing all 59 conference proposals. This is the largest number of proposals we have received! Proposals are evaluated based on appropriateness to the conference theme, currency to the higher education assessment environment, and relevance to the TxAHEA audience.

ETS Proficiency Profile
OPA is administering the ETS Proficiency Profile this spring, which assesses seniors’ skills in reading, writing, critical thinking, and mathematics. These data are used in accreditation, program effectiveness evaluations, and other accountability measures to ensure students receive a quality education here at Texas Tech. The assessment is conducted completely online, and students only need a computer and internet connection to download the required software and complete the test. OPA has 100 available tests which we began inviting students to complete via email on April 1st. Each student has 40 minutes to complete the assessment and can take the test at their convenience until April 30th. Our office is also offering two scholarships for $500 as incentives for students to complete the assessment. As of April 22nd, 71 students have completed the assessment, which is the highest number of completed tests our office has had for the Proficiency Profile. While we tested and piloted the assessment in 2018, we first administered the Proficiency Profile in the spring of 2019, which resulted in 39 completed tests. OPA has distributed initial invites and reminders through the Lyris email platform to over 10,000 seniors each week, providing detailed instructions on how to start and complete the assessment. Our office has also answered student questions and helped with academic accommodations. With a week left in response time, we will continue to encourage students to complete the assessment which benefits the university and gives students a chance to win a solid scholarship.
TxAHEA Website Updates
As we are preparing for our Fall TxAHEA conference, we have been updating our website to reflect updates as well as provide a more user-friendly interface.
OPA Summer Staffing (Kahlie)

We are excited that two of our students will be able to continue working with us through the summer. Lauren will be able to work half days on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. On Wednesdays she will work a full day. Lauren will begin her student teaching in the fall, and unfortunately her last day as an OPA employee will be Thursday, July 22nd. We are sad to see Lauren go, but we are extremely proud of her and are thankful for all the hard work she has provided OPA over the years.

Emily will also be able to continue working through the summer and will maintain her current schedule of Monday-Thursday from 9:00-2:00. We are appreciative of all of Emily’s knowledge and creativity with providing graphics and logos for various office projects.