November 6, 2020

Fall 2020 Newsletter to be Distributed on 11/9/20
OPA has been working collaboratively as an office toward the creation of the Fall 2020 Newsletter. OPA’s graduate student, Emily Wade, has done a wonderful job highlighting information from all the hard work that has gone into the Fall semester, such as the Assessment Spotlight winners, Assessment Innovation Grant winners, OPA blog posts and 1-Minute Videos, and preparation of various training resources. IT will distribute the newsletter to faculty and staff on Monday November 9th at 10am via the TTU Provost mailbox. Below are some screenshots of the final product.
OPA Monthly Blog on the OPA Website

Last term we announced the beginning of OPA Blogs, where we provide you with timely and quick-to-read articles each month to help you grow in your assessment knowledge. Since then we have created five total blogs which lay out important assessment information for you! Click the names of the blogs below to view them on our website!

June 2020
Comparing 2017-2018 Assessment Results to 2018-2019 Assessment Results

July 2020
Assessment Expectations for October 1, 2020

August 2020
Preparing Follow-Ups For Your 2015-2020 Assessment Report

September 2020
3 Tips for Completing Your 2019 - 2020 Assessment Report

October 2020
Assessment of TTU's Core Curriculum

OPA 1-Minute Videos
OPA has also introduced 1-Minute videos, featured on both the OPA website and OPA YouTube page. These videos are quick watches to help you understand assessment information from our office to you. Check out our 1-Minute Videos below! Click on the
Assessment Innovation Grant Award Winners

OPA is happy to announce the winners of this year’s Assessment Innovation Grant! We awarded five $500 grants to individuals who demonstrated a commitment to innovative assessment practices within their department. This year’s winners are:

Dr. Marcus Tanner
*University Studies*

Dr. Tanner’s application focused on the challenges of assessing an interdisciplinary degree program. Specifically, Dr. Tanner discussed how the assessment plan for University Studies is ‘neatly new’ and faculty need to be ‘familiar with the plan, the methods for collecting assessment data, and review individual course SLOs for alignment.’ Dr. Tanner’s AIG funds will be allocated toward faculty engagement.

Dr. Raychel Vasseur
*Spanish*

Dr. Vasseur’s application explained the need for TTU Spanish majors and minors to use “Spanish post-graduation in an increasingly globalized world.” Dr. Vasseur highlighted how AIG funds will be used to assess students’ language proficiency skills by funding a certified American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) tester. Having a local tester will allow students to demonstrate that they have ‘certified’ language skills.

Dr. Sarah Victor, Dr. Jason Van Allen, and Dr. Andrew Littlefield
*Psychological Sciences*

NSSE Pulse Survey Administration

The NSSE Pulse was open from October 16th through November 6th. The Office of Planning and Assessment is pleased to report there were more than 1,100 responses to this survey. The team from NSSE will be working on generating a final report and analyzing the data within the next weeks. OPA is anxious to review feedback from students, and we are hopeful these data will shed light into the needs and expectations of students during this unprecedented time. Below is a dashboard of preliminary data from the survey.
GPI Survey
The Global Perspectives Inventory was open from October 5th through October 31st. The GPI team from Iowa State will be working on generating a final report of the data within the next few days. OPA expects to receive data from the GPI next week and will provide the report to Dr. Paul Pare for use in the QEP Impact Report.

Updated Digital Measures Instructional Videos
We recently updated Digital Measures instructional videos to reflect the changes that have been made over the past years. These videos are short and provide visual walkthroughs of the Texas Tech-specific Digital Measures interface. We intentionally excluded information that is likely to change soon, in order to add some longevity to the videos. The updated videos can be found here:

Loading a Course Syllabus: https://youtu.be/Ric077qTZ2w
HB2504 and Public Access to Course Info: https://youtu.be/KPpbEUugikk
Justification Statements: https://youtu.be/wtcx-STrPXk
Importing Publications into Digital Measures: https://youtu.be/pulHdoL1oL4
Requesting Access to Digital Measures: https://youtu.be/uGQI5pKT2wg
Running Annual Faculty Reports: https://youtu.be/manvsEgQK0g

These changes are part of a larger website update which will see new, more directed information for new faculty, existing faculty, or administrative employees. Our redesign will make the website easier to navigate and locate information based on rank or teaching experience, so that new faculty are not seeing how to run administrative reports, while administrators are not seeing how to enter CV information. Overall, we believe this will make information dissemination more effective.
Fifth Year Report Update

Update on SACSCOC Fifth Year Report Activity Week of November 9th.

- Hughes received the final faculty data needed for 6.2.b. Hughes is currently in the process of assigning BA faculty to their respective degree programs, as some faculty teach in more than one degree program and will therefore be double-counted.
- Hughes and Shatley completed the final draft for 10.9, which was disseminated to Dr. James on Friday, November 6. Shatley will continue to gather and refine the evidence files for 10.9. For example, we will be seeking transcript credit evidence and further evidence on how academic agreements are regularly evaluated.
- Hughes received the final admissions response on 11/5/20. Hansard will be sending a jump drive to the OPA office next week with all evidence. OPA will begin formatting this response in preparation to send to Dr. James.
- Spradlin continues to gather critical evidence for 8.1. This week, she received certification information from the Whitacre College of Engineering.

TxAHEA Webinar Planning and Listserv Recruitment (Kahlie)

We are preparing for our November Webinar which will be led by Dr. Lea Campbell, TxAHEA President-Elect. This webinar will be held via Zoom to allow the presenter to mute all participants as they enter the meeting. Kahlie has scheduled a practice Zoom call with Lea to ensure the session will be a success. A Google Doc registration form has also been created and added to our TxAHEA webinar page. This will allow attendees to receive an Outlook calendar invitation to serve as a reminder.
We have also created a brand-new TxAHEA listserv. Our aim is to foster discussion on a variety of assessment topics through this platform. Kahlie sent the invitation to join the new listserv to our 2019 TxAHEA conference attendees, which provided them with an option to “opt out” before being added to the listserv. We have had some positive responses as well as individuals request to join who had not previously attended our conference. Through this correspondence, we now have a new member from the University of Texas at Austin on our Planning Committee. This will allow us to continue to grow our association in the Austin area where we did not previously have a representative.