The Office of Planning and Assessment continues to make significant advances toward the integration of a comprehensive institutional effectiveness strategy that aligns with SACSCOC expectations and institutional priorities. Below is a summary of OPA’s contributions to institutional effectiveness from the period of May 4 – May 8.

- In preparation for the SACSCOC Response Report narratives, the Office of Planning and Assessment is revising final outlines for CS 3.3.1.1, CS 3.3.1.2, and CS 3.3.1.3. Grace Hernandez will prepare the response for CS 3.2.12 (Fund-Raising Activities) and Gary Smith will prepare the response for CS 3.3.2 (Quality Enhancement Plan).
- Application Development and Systems (ADS) is building the framework for an Institutional Effectiveness website. Kathy Austin has requested feedback from OPA. OPA will continue to work with ADS to develop content for the website.
- Degree program revisions are underway in each academic department.
  - An Assessment Revision Process reminder/clarification email was sent to all Deans, Associate Deans, and Department Chairs on May 4th.
  - The Whitacre College of Engineering and the College of Architecture each met with OPA staff for extensive assessment consultation. Each college presents unique challenges to its assessment methodology. Engineering, for example, is seeking out ways to align TracDat reporting with ABET accreditation, which requires eleven student learning outcomes. Architecture is also aligning its methods according to the NAAB principles of aesthetics. NAAB has identified a new set of student learning outcomes that the College must adopt for its next self-study.
  - Due to the structure of reporting for Arts and Sciences, assessment expectations often require an additional level of oversight through Associate Dean David Roach. To assist Dr. Roach, a follow-up email was sent to all Arts & Sciences Department Chairs.
  - TracDat accounts within the Department of Philosophy were re-evaluated based on updated information previously missing in the MA program.
  - OPA held one TTU Assessment Network (TAN) meeting on May 6th, “Assessment Boot Camp: Paring Down Your Student Learning Outcomes”.
- As of May 8, all UESA and A&F units completed the Continuous Improvement Survey. All survey responses have been transferred into the reporting template, but have not been vetted by OPA staff. OPA will begin the analysis of these responses next week.
- The Office of Planning and Assessment submitted a comprehensive Distance Learning Assessment plan to Dr. Hart and Dr. James on May 1, 2015. Pending approval of the eLearning Council, the plan could be implemented as early as Fall 2015.
In addition to ongoing institutional effectiveness efforts, the Office of Planning and Assessment continues to work on existing and new assessment activities.

- The Office of Planning and Assessment has reviewed and revised the QEP Topic Development Committee list. The current version is viewed at http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/qep/topicdevelopcommittee.php.
- Degree programs have historically been assessed using a modified rubric that was originally provided by Dr. Gerry Dizinno from the University of Texas San Antonio. However, as OPA moves forward with a defined institutional effectiveness mission, a new rubric needs to be developed. OPA is currently evaluating institutional effectiveness rubrics from peer institutions. The current goal is to implement a new rubric in fall 2015.
- As part of the supplemental documentation that is required with the Response Report, Texas Tech must provide updated information about the status of current disciplinary accrediting bodies that exist across the institution. An email is currently in draft form to request updated information. More information will be available about this assessment with next week’s report.
- DigitalMeasures is introducing a new interface in Summer 2015. A revision to the instructional material is required in order to ensure that users are aware of changes. This revision will be available by May 31, 2015.
  - As the semester ends, user accounts are being reviewed to clean out inactive accounts.
  - Numerous new staff accounts have been created within the past week.
- The Office of Planning and Assessment continues to actively collaborate with Application Development and Systems on several projects that are direct contributions to institutional effectiveness.
  - The EAB Assessment and Accountability subcommittee has requested that OPA provide an analysis of retention and student success measures by unit and by method. OPA is developing an assessment plan to assist in gathering this evidence. The report deadline is July 15.
  - The implementation of Academic Analytics is a comprehensive process that will require multiple stakeholders. Their mission is to “provide universities and university systems with objective data that administrators can use to support the strategic decision-making process as well as a method for benchmarking in comparison to other institutions.” As an office that has historically been involved in planning processes, OPA participation is very valuable, but is still in the development phase.
- The electronic portfolio implementation project is developing ahead of schedule. Currently, the focus is to identify funding options. Genevieve Durham-DeCasaro is an active partner in this stage of the process.
- An analysis of the Raiders Engaged instrument (formerly OEI) was completed and submitted to various individuals involved in the process for future measurement of outreach and engagement at Texas Tech. The next steps for this project are to identify institutional benchmarks to ensure that national award criteria are captured in future iterations of Raiders Engaged.
- The Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP) is an emerging discussion within higher education and assessment. OPA is currently familiarizing itself with the DQP and evaluating its potential implementation at TTU. As a part of that evaluation, two OPA staff members will be attending a day-long seminar hosted by LEAP Texas on May 18th in Dallas, TX.
- The Office of Planning and Assessment has completed, revised, and submitted the final proof of the mass mailer for the West Texas Assessment Conference. This mailer will provide helpful and immediate insight to prospective attendees regarding the new location in San Angelo, TX. This
mailer will reach over 1,000 recipients including Deans, Associate Deans, Chairs, Directors, Associate Directors, Assistant Directors, and previous conference attendees.