The Office of Planning and Assessment reports each week its activities and contributions toward Texas Tech University’s institutional effectiveness efforts. Over the past week, OPA has accomplished the following tasks.

Texas Tech will be found in compliance with all external accrediting agencies and State of Texas mandates

- October 1st was the deadline for degree programs to update, if needed, TracDat accounts for 2014-2015 student learning outcomes assessment. Most programs had updated this information early, as requested by OPA for the SACSCOC Response Report. However, the typical deadline for this activity is in the fall, after the academic year is completed. Any departments that did not enter data during the summer or wanted to update the information with completed Academic Year data were given until October 1st to do so. Over the next week OPA will review TracDat accounts to determine which programs, if any, are non-compliant with TracDat updates. These departments will be contacted by OPA. Similarly, all accounts will begin to be reviewed by OPA and consultation will be set up with each program to improve assessment activity.

- To ensure ASSU and ASSSUs are prepared to report on identified operational outcomes, OPA is scheduling meetings with all pertinent departments to review outcomes that were reported previously in preparation for the Response Report. The consultations will review outcomes, assessment plans, and review reporting procedure. OPA has already scheduled meetings with the auxiliary directors beginning next week. Undergraduate Education will follow and then Student Affairs by the end of the semester. A summary handout is currently being prepared that will be given to each director. A copy of this summary will be included in next week’s report.

- In preparation for the launch of the new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), Communicating in a Global Society, and as an official closing and Thank You to the QEP Development Committee, the “QEP Thank You Party” was held October 1st.

- A template was created for Dr. James to distribute to international stakeholders who have an interest in partnering with Texas Tech University on dual degrees.

- OPA contacted the following colleges/departments to increase HB 2504 compliance status: Engineering, Human Sciences, Media and Communication, RaiderReady, and VPA.

- DigitalMeasures Activity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Number of Logins)</th>
<th>8 Hours</th>
<th>1 Day</th>
<th>2 Days</th>
<th>1 Week</th>
<th>1 Month</th>
<th>6 Months</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activities Database - University (107,630)</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>4,265</td>
<td>18,032</td>
<td>82,794</td>
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The Office of Planning and Assessment will contribute to the Office of the Provost’s institutional planning processes

- Despite the still developing process for strategic planning, OPA has created an Institutional Effectiveness Handbook that outlines fundamental aspects and institutional reporting. While the IE Handbook is a first draft and will change as the process matures, the information, in collaboration with the IE Portal, will provide guidance and clarity to the institutional community about what is expected moving forward under an institutional effectiveness structure.

- The recruitment for the CLA+ with distance and regional site students has been heavily dependent on the assistance of program advisors. Advisors were asked by a representative in TTU Worldwide eLearning to assist with the recruitment and then OPA provided direction on how to recruit. Advisors were asked to reach out to students to identify participants that would be sent an individualized link to the CLA+. Advisors were given until the end of business October 1st to provide the list of students. The target sample size is 100 students. The initial sample size is about a third of that goal. OPA will work with TTU Worldwide eLearning to recruit the intended goal. The CLA+ will close its administration November 6th.

- Outreach and engagement assessment planning continues. OPA visited with Dr. Birgit Green to discuss the Raiders Engaged administration and prepare for the upcoming instrument preview. And a Summary Report continues to be developed that the Outreach and Engagement Committee can use when reviewing the instrument, results, and identifying operational definitions.

- Two modules from the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) will be administered in the spring. Once course schedules are posted, OPA will identify courses where the test will be administered. The primary populations will be Core Courses since they are more likely to have a large number of Freshmen and Capstone courses since they will be a good source for Seniors. If needed, other options will be explored. OPA works closely with Genevieve Durham-DeCesaro and ASFR on this process.

- The pilot group of students for the iPortfolio (consisting of 166 students from various majors) have been contacted by email and invited to training sessions. There have already been four trainings so far, with many students having participated. Students and pilot group coordinators will continue to be in contact, but no artifacts will be loaded into any student’s iPortfolio until rubrics have been created by the Core Curriculum Committee.

The Office of Planning and Assessment will continually monitor the university’s compliance with laws, policy statements, and policies deriving from the State of Texas, THECB, and SACSCOC

- In last week’s report, a summary of actions taken by the THECB were presented. One of those actions was related to performance-based tuition. Texas State Bill 778, which went into effect on Sept. 1, 2015, outlines how performance-based tuition at institutions of higher education will be governed. Target levels that are determined by the Coordinating Board and the governing board of an institution will be developed. These target levels will be performance measures based on undergraduate degrees awarded and the institution’s administrative costs. Institutions that do not achieve target levels will charge tuition equal to the previous year plus inflation. Institutions that achieve target levels will be able to charge up to five percent above the previous year plus inflation.

- LEAP Texas and Texas Tech University have been following recent learning outcomes assessment research out of AAC&U. This week, the following release was given regarding preliminary finding: “With support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and the State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) Association
launched in 2011 the Multi-State Collaborative to Advance Learning Outcomes Assessment (MSC). In its pilot year, the project initially engaged faculty in 59 institutions in nine participating states. The nine states participating in the MSC during the pilot year were: Connecticut, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Utah... The pilot study successfully demonstrated that rubric-based assessment can be taken to scale and can produce valid findings with credible and actionable information about student learning that can be used to improve curricular and assignment designs and to increase effectiveness of programs and classes in advancing the most important learning outcomes of college. (http://www.aacu.org/press/press-releases/multi-state-collaboration-produces-valuable-new-evidence-about-writing-critical)

- As a part of regular OPA staff meetings, CS 3.4.11 was reviewed and discussed. CS 3.4.11 is in the Academic Programs sections and reads, “For each major in a degree program, the institution assigns responsibility for program coordination, as well as for curriculum development and review, to persons academically qualified in the field. In those degree programs for which the institution does not identify a major, this requirement applies to a curricular area or concentration.” The Office of Planning and Assessment currently maintains a list of degree program coordinators.

- The Office of Planning and Assessment continues to monitor the university’s transcript collection and storage procedures. OPA staff prepared a transcript memo that Dr. Stewart will distribute at the October Associate Deans meeting. This memo outlines the new procedures for non tenure-track faculty.

**Texas Tech University faculty and staff will be well-prepared to meet OPA’s faculty credentialing, assessment, and strategic plan expectations**

- The Texas Tech Assessment Network (TAN) has been reformatted to better educate the campus community about institutional effectiveness expectations and best practices. The reformatted TAN began with a TracDat Refresher training on September 28 and continued with a session titled, Designing An Assessment Rubric on September 30th. Participation for both of these sessions was lower than expected, but well received by those who attended. OPA will continue to explore strategies for improving attendance. However, TAN continues to be one of the best opportunities for educating to campus and OPA expects its impact to grow. There are four sessions scheduled for October. A November schedule will be developed over the next couple of weeks.

- As a part of OPA’s continued outreach efforts, OPA followed up with regular department chair visits with a visit specifically related to faculty credentialing. This week OPA met with Dr. Sharran Parkinson from the Department of Design to discuss ways DigitalMeasures information can be more useful for the department such as running reports that can be used for the Graduate School report.

- OPA has been working with Human Development and Family Studies all semester on the development of a departmental strategic plan that aligns with their own college’s plan as well as the university plan. A significant benchmark was met this week with that consultation. The results from faculty feedback gathered after the departmental retreat that OPA participated in were sent to the department chair, Dr. Mastergeorge.

- OPA met with the Human Sciences (BS) academic advisor this week to establish procedures for assessing students within this degree program. Currently, the degree program is assessed very minimally, so OPA staff are reaching out to the advisor to strengthen assessment processes.
In addition to direct contributions toward the departmental goals, OPA continues to focus on continuous improvement measures external to the office.

- As mentioned in previous reports, OPA is working with OLLI on focus groups intended to provide data that can improve participation. OLLI focus group recruitment is underway until October 15th. So far, three participants have confirmed. The goal is to have ten participants.