Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Academic Planning and Policy E-NEWS

ACADEMIC PLANNING AND POLICY: Academic Affairs & Research – Planning & Accountability – P-16 Initiatives

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The Coordinating Board is guided by the state's higher education plan, Closing the Gaps by 2015, to close the educational gaps in Texas, in student participation, success, institutional excellence, and research.

Academic Performance of 2-Year College Transfer Students at Texas Public Universities

The *Academic Performance of 2-Year College Transfer Students at Texas Public Universities* report, published annually, looks at the performance of community college transfer students in their first year at a university. The cohort includes students who were enrolled for the first time in universities in the fall semester. The performance includes GPA and fall-to-fall retention. For fall 2007, 25,979 students had transferred to universities. During the first year at a university, 43 percent of these students earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher; 74 percent returned the next fall to continue their second year at a university. The students are presented by developmental education status in a community college, by type of award earned, and by the completion status of core or field of study curriculum. Statewide, students who earned an academic associate degree are more likely to persist in the second year at a university and have higher GPA, followed by students who transferred without an award. Twenty-two percent of the students transferred had the core curriculum completed, and 2 percent had completed a field of study curriculum. The report is available for each community college and university in the state. A sample report is provided on page 2 of this newsletter; the full report can be accessed at http://www.txhighereddata.org/reports/performance/ctctransfer/

Gabriela Borcoman, Senior Program Director, Planning and Accountability

Deans of Engineering Meeting

On March 6, with grant support from the Lumina Foundation for Education's *Making Opportunity Affordable* (MOA) initiative, the Coordinating Board hosted a meeting of engineering deans in order to provide information about and seek input on the Board's proposal to identify by August 31, 2009, a set of lower-division courses for mechanical engineering, up to the level of an associate's degree, that would facilitate the efficient transfer of engineering students from community colleges to four-year institutions. The meeting was well attended and well received; 29 deans and designees attended the meeting, representing 24 institutions. Eighteen institutions now have nominated a representative to serve on the "Mechanical Engineering Statewide Articulated Transfer Curriculum Committee," the advisory committee that will assist the Coordinating Board in actually developing a statewide articulated transfer curriculum for mechanical engineering. The first meeting of the committee will be held at the Coordinating Board on April 10.

Mary E. Smith, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Academic Planning and Policy

New Review Process for Uniform Recruitment and Retention Strategy (URRS)

Texas state law directs the Coordinating Board to "develop and annually update a uniform recruitment and retention strategy to identify, attract, enroll and retain students that reflect the population of this state." The statute further directs higher education institutions to "implement the uniform strategy and report annually to the Coordinating Board the manner in which the institution has implemented the uniform strategy." In order to address the requirements, each institution was asked to include the following elements in the strategies and to collect data and evaluate success based on these elements: partnerships with high-need public schools, pre-college academic outreach, application assistance, financial aid assistance, academic support programs, tutoring/mentoring programs, and academic advising. The reports are being reviewed by in-state and out-of-state peer reviewers using the reporting template, review matrix, institutional *Closing the Gaps by 2015* targets, and the Coordinating Board participation forecast. Reviewers were asked to provide recommendations and suggestions on institutional submissions. The reviewers' recommendations and suggestions will be provided to institutions. Coordinating Board staff will provide an evaluation report at the April Coordinating Board meeting.

Natalie Coffey, Senior Program Director, P-16 Initiatives

UPCOMING EVENTS

Coordinating Board Meetings
April 30, 2009
July 30, 2009
October 29, 2009
Agenda

Coordinating Board Committee Meetings
http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/Events/

Academic Excellence & Research
March 23, 2009
Participation & Success
March 23, 2009
Strategic Planning
March 24, 2009

Upcoming College Readiness Initiative (CRI) Faculty Collaboratives
Feb. 28, '09; Apr. 3, '09
http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/Reports/PDF/1656.pdf

USEFUL LINKS

Finance and Resource Planning
http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/PA/FinanceAndResourcePlanning/default.cfm

Texas Higher Education Accountability System
http://www.txhighereddata.org/Interactive/Accountability/

P-16 Initiatives
http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/OS/

Employment Opportunities at the Coordinating Board
http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/Agency/jobs.cfm

Policies and Procedures Manual

A revised version of the *Policies and Procedures Manual* for universities and health-related institutions is now available on the Coordinating Board website at http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/aar/policy/policy.cfm. The Manual describes the policies and procedures of the Coordinating Board related to the four-year review of mission statements, Tables of Programs, and low-producing programs; new degree program requests; and administrative change requests. In addition, the revised Manual now includes a *Frequently Asked Questions* section that addresses information most requested by higher education institutions.

Kevin Lemoine, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Academic Affairs and Research

P-16 Regional Councils Institutes

On August 27-28, 2008, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's office of P-16 Outreach hosted the first P-16 Regional Councils Institute in conjunction with the High School to College Summit. This was the first in a series of institutes designed to bring P-16 Regional Council teams of local secondary, post-secondary, and community and business partners together to assist in *Closing the Gaps by 2015*. The ongoing institutes aim to provide professional development for Regional P-16 Councils so that they may become the primary vehicles to implement outreach and awareness activities. More than 300 public school and college administrators, workforce, community, and business partners attended. Councils identified and embraced core data elements to inform and monitor their work. P-16 Council members also selected and prioritized six "critical success factors" for councils to guide efforts across the state. Institutes were held on November 19, 2008, and February 11, 2009, at the Doubletree North Hotel in Austin, Texas. The next P-16 Regional Councils Institute is scheduled for June 9, 2009, in Austin, Texas. The councils will continue to work on their regional data analysis and on strategies to address their respective top three critical success factors. Additional information is available at www.p16texas.org.

Priscilla Martinez, Program Director, P-16 Initiatives

Early College High Schools

Institutions of higher education that partner with districts to provide an Early College High School (ECHS) should be aware that the Texas Education Agency has announced application procedures for ECHS Designation. Districts are required to submit an application for designation for any existing or proposed ECHS by April 15, 2009. For general inquiries regarding the ECHS designation process, please contact Kelty Garbee at echs@tea.state.tx.us or by phone at 512-936-2597.

Kristen Kramer, Senior Program Director, P-16 Initiatives

Academic Performance of 2-Year College Transfer Students at Texas Public Universities

Below is a sample; individual institutional reports can be accessed at http://www.txhighereddata.org/reports/performance/ctctransfer/

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Academic Performance of 2-Year College Transfer Students at Texas Public Universities

Texas Community College

Comparison of Developmental Education vs No Developmental Education Fall 2007

		Developmental Education Prior to Transfer								No Developmental Education Prior to Transfe							
	Total		GPA for 1st Year at University								GPA for 1st Year at University						
	Transfers			2.0 -	2.5 -	3.0 -			Enroll			2.0 -	2.5 -	3.0 -			Enro
Institution	Fall 2007	DE	< 2.0	2.49	2.99	3.49	> 3.5	Unk	Fall 2008	No DE	< 2.0	2.49	2.99	3.49	> 3.5	Unk	Fall 20
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY	17	5	1	1	1	1	1	0	5	12	1	1	5	2	3	0	
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY	25	10	2	2	0	1	4	1	9	15	1	2	7	3	2	0	
U. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN	226	76	7	9	16	24	18	2	62	150	12	21	34	34	48	1	1
INSTITUTION TOTAL	268	91	10	12	17	26	23	3	76	177	14	24	46	39	53	1	1

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