

Council of Academic Deans Meeting
October 18, 2022

Summary and Action Items

1. **Recruitment Task Force Update** – Dr. Andrea Golato provided the Council with an update from the Recruitment Task Force. The task force has met twice, and President Damphousse attended the first meeting to provide the committee's charge. It was reiterated that the finances of the university are driven by enrollment; therefore, the committee is focused on recruitment practices, financial aid and scholarships, and strategies for increasing enrollment, with emphasis on international, transfer, and master's student enrollment, as well as online enrollment. Dr. Gene Bourgeois discussed partnership opportunities to increase TXST's global footprint and online programs, including those under review by The Texas State University System.
2. **Communications Regarding the Death of an Active Faculty Member** – When the death of an active faculty member occurs off campus, the dean of the respective college will send a message to their faculty and staff as they see fit. UPPS 04.04.58, Responding to the Death of an Employee, describes the role of the University Policy Department and other offices in communicating deaths that occur on campus.
3. **Strategic Planning** – Dr. Bourgeois and Dr. Beth Wuest reviewed a working draft of the 2023-2029 TXST Plan Proposed Goals and Initiatives. Discussion we held amongst the group. The next step is for Dr. Bourgeois to seek approval from President's Cabinet.
4. **Undergraduate Admissions Report** – Mr. Gary Ray provided the Council with an undergraduate admissions report.

He announced two areas recently recognized at the state and national level. First, the Office of Veterans Affairs, under the direction of the University Registrar, received the 2022 Gold Veterans Education Excellence Recognition Award (VEERA) last Friday. The Texas Legislature established the VEERA program to recognize public colleges and universities for their excellence in providing education and related services to veterans and the military-connected community. Second, the Office of University Marketing was selected as a national finalist for the 2022 American Marketing Association Higher Education Marketer of the Year Team Award. This award recognizes extraordinary leadership and achievement in higher education marketing and is considered the most significant honor in the industry. The winner will be announced on November 6-8, 2022 at the national conference in National Harbor, MD.

Reskilling Grant: TXST just closed out its second \$1.5 million Reskilling Grant from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund. Universities are required to return any unused funds. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of staff in the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, Texas State disbursed 100% of the funds to support deserving students.

Spring 2023 NSO registration is underway, with 287 registered as of October 17, 2022.

Class registration for the spring 2023 semester began October 17, 2022. The payment deadline is January 12, 2023 and classes begin January 17, 2023.

Spring 2023 freshmen applications

- 600 first-year students applications are down (21) or -3.4%
- 207 first-year admits are up 13 or 6.3%

Spring 2023 transfer applications

- 1,026 transfer applications are down by -16 or -1.5%
- 554 transfer admits are up 38 by or 7.4%

To date, 3,285 applications for fall 2023 have been received via the Common App, which has already surpassed the total applications for fall 2022 received via the Coalition Apps (2,770).

Undergraduate Admissions has 352,738 prospects for fall 2023 admissions, including 115,000 students currently juniors in high school.

Fall 2023 freshmen applications (as of October 17, 2022)

- 8,844 freshman apps are up 3,612 or 67%
- 3,637 freshman admits are 1,078 up or 42%

Fall 2023 transfer applications (as of October 17, 2022)

- 202 transfer apps are up by 92 or 83%
- 80 transfer admits are up by 34 or 73%

Two new initiatives for transfer students: 1) ACC Bats to Cats initiative; and 2) Laredo College Articulation Agreement is in progress.

Mr. Ray expressed his gratitude for everyone who participated in this past weekend's Bobcat Day, which had approximately 730 students in attendance.

3. **Graduate Admissions Report** – Dr. Andrea Golato provided the Council with a graduate admissions report. For spring 2023, she reported an increase in applications and acceptances at both the doctoral and master's levels. She noted that of those master's students who have been accepted, only a few students have registered; therefore, outreach from The Graduate College will begin to graduate students regarding registration.

Dr. Golato thanked everyone who hosted a table at the recent Graduate Fair; she noted there was higher student attendance this year.

OFF AGENDA

Dr. Shreek Mandayam provided the Council with an update from the Commission on the Run to R1. The task force has met twice, and President Damphousse attended the first meeting to provide the commission's charge. The commission is focused on benchmarking and data analysis, policy recommendations, and an aggressive timeline for becoming an R1 university. He noted the importance of educating everyone on the commission about the metrics needed to be designated as "Very High Research Activity" (R1) institution via the Carnegie classification system. TXST is faring well with research expenditures, anticipated at \$109M in FY22. Dr. Mandayam discussed a predictive model, which indicates TXST needs to graduate 100 Ph.D. students and employ 100 post-doctoral associates/non-faculty research staff annually to be competitive. He announced this initiative would cost \$50M and action is needed quickly to be ready for the 2027 Carnegie review cycle. Discussion was held amongst

the Council about feasibility, opportunities, and challenges. A presentation on the predictive model will be provided to the Council.