











Online Assessment Tracking Database

Sam Houston State University (SHSU)
2014 - 2015

History, Department Of

Goal	Scholarly Endeavors  The Department of History will engage in scholarly activities to maintain a high-quality curriculum.
Objective (P) KPI Performance Indicator	Faculty Scholarship  The Department of History will maintain a constant flow of faculty research and scholarly activities.
Result KPI Performance Indicator	Faculty Research Publications DRAFT  The History faculty will contribute to the field by publishing in scholarly venues. At least 55% of the graduate faculty will publish a scholarly work each year. The history faculty will average at least 35 published pages per graduate faculty member per year.
Result KPI Performance Indicator	Faculty Research Publications DRAFT  In 2014-15, 12 of 19 History faculty published in scholarly venues, a rate of 63%. The average page count of such publications per graduate-faculty member was 84.
Result KPI Performance Indicator	Grant Activity DRAFT  At least 60% of the graduate history faculty will submit at least one grant proposal each year, and at least one of these proposals will be funded.
Result KPI Performance Indicator	Grant Activity DRAFT  10 of 19 graduate history faculty, or 53%, applied for grants in 2014-15. Three of these applications won awards and were funded.
Result KPI Performance Indicator	Faculty Research Presentations DRAFT  At least 60% of the graduate faculty will present in scholarly venues each year.
	Faculty Research Presentations DRAFT  16 of 19, or 84% of history graduate faculty presented in scholarly venues over the year.
There are no actions for this objective.	

Goal	Advanced Education  The history department will promote matriculation of undergraduate students into advanced educational programs
Objective (P)	Promoting Advanced Degree Work 

History majors will demonstrate competency in knowledge and skills necessary to seek advanced degrees in history and related fields.

**KPI
Performance
Indicator**

Admission Into Graduate School DRAFT

Admission of history students to history graduate programs will indicate success. The department will seek to place at least 10% of BA or BS graduates into history MA or other history graduate programs.

Result

**BA/BS Admission To Graduate School In History
DRAFT**

Of 53 fall and spring History BA/BS undergraduates, we know of 5 that were admitted to History graduate programs -- a rate of just below 10%.

**KPI
Performance
Indicator**

Advanced Degree Programs Outside Of History DRAFT

Admission of history graduates to programs for other advanced other degrees, such as the PhD, the JD, and the M.L.S. will indicate success. The History Department will encourage such study and will seek to place at least 3 BA, BS, or MA graduates in programs for advanced or specialized degrees at other universities.

Result

Advanced Programs At Other Universities DRAFT

We know of 5 students who gained admissions offers from major graduate schools. 1 BS student gained acceptance to the Baylor College of Medicine. 1 BA to Howard University Law School. And 3 MA to Research 1 PhD programs with full funding.

Action

Collation Of Data DRAFT

It is possible that some information that sporadically came in about History students' success in gaining admission to further programs was not fully collected. We shall institute a process whereby all such information received, incidentally or otherwise, will be collected in a single repository.

Goal

Teaching Excellence

Instructional faculty receive high ratings of their teaching.

Objective (P)

Faculty Teaching

History instructors will be rated above the national average on the Individual Development and Educational Assessment (IDEA) instrument.

**KPI
Performance
Indicator**

IDEA Student Ratings: % Classes

At least 70% of the classes taught by History faculty will have IDEA Student ratings at or above the national average among professors of history at institutions using the IDEA system.

Result**IDEA Ratings At Or Above National Average.****DRAFT** 🔑

In fall 2014, 81% of History courses received student ratings above the national average. In spring 2015, this figure was 87%.

**KPI
Performance
Indicator****Students Taught By PhD Faculty** **DRAFT** 🔑

During any academic year the percentage of history students taught by tenured and tenure track faculty holding the PhD will exceed 85%.

Result**History Students Taught By Tenure-track And Tenured Faculty** **DRAFT** 🔑

During the fall of 2014, students enrolled in History programs were taught by tenured and tenure-track professors at the rate of 78%. In spring 2015, the rate was 73%.

**KPI
Performance
Indicator****IDEA Student Ratings: Average** **DRAFT** 🔑

The average adjusted student evaluation of all SHSU History teachers as measured by the IDEA Center will place the average SHSU History faculty in the top 30% among teachers in the nation who use the IDEA instrument.

Result**IDEA History Teacher Evaluation Vs. National Average** **DRAFT** 🔑

In fall 2014, 78% of History faculty exceeded the national average of History teachers rated nationally. In spring 2015, the figure was 82%. Both figures placed History faculty within the top 30% among teachers nationwide using the instrument.

**KPI
Performance
Indicator****Teaching Reviews** **DRAFT** 🔑

Each year, members of our tenured faculty meet with our assistant professors to discuss teaching quality. This involves classroom observations, evaluations of the syllabi, and post-observation discussions. The department will collect reports from these experiences and score their results.

Result**Meetings On Teaching Quality** **DRAFT** 🔑

This year, History's three tenure-track faculty members received mentorship from a senior History faculty members including pre-class, class, and post-class visits; syllabus analysis; and written assessments of teaching.

We ascertained that given the status of such mentorship within the policy of the College and the

Department, it is not possible to share this information in a committee and be evaluated at that level. (The written reports were received and reviewed by the Chair.) We shall develop a new process that can obviate such problems, as discussed in the Action below.

Action

Teaching Reviews And Tenure-track Average **DRAFT**

We shall develop a new assessment mechanism for Teaching Reviews, probably a random selection of 3-5 classes that will be evaluated outside of any other process or policy in the Department. This mechanism will be developed in the fall and implemented in the spring.

The ratio of History students receiving instruction from tenure-track and tenured professors remains below the desired goal. We shall run three searches next year at the tenure-track.

Previous Cycle's "Plan for Continuous Improvement"

We shall:

1. Ensure that long-term research projects resulting in major publications are supported
2. Enhance our promotional activity of faculty research
3. Improve assessment of pool faculty while striving to enhance the proportion of PhD faculty in the classroom.

Please detail the elements of your previous "Plan for Continuous Improvement" that were implemented. If elements were not implemented please explain why, along with any contextual challenges you may have faced that prevented their implementation.

We continued substantial financial support for research, and we saw the publication of four monographs, each a major contributions to its field. One of these books received a distinctly glowing review in the American Historical Review. We initiated a podcast modeled on "New Books in History" that interviews our faculty publishers. We hired two new faculty with PhD's and searched for and won one more and cooperated with pool faculty to bring innovations to the classroom. This included preparations for an out-of-class activity on Holocaust Remembrance Day and the planning of an activity wall for a pool-faculty led class next fall.

Plan for Continuous Improvement - Please detail your plan for improvement that you have developed based on what you learned from your 2014 - 2015 Cycle Findings.

1. We shall strive if possible to an even greater degree to put Ph.D. faculty before our students at every level, in particular where the matter is acutest, the lower level.
2. We shall build out our first full year of promoting our faculty and student research through Internet platforms including our books podcast and East Texas History/Google fieldtrip app.
3. We shall recruit new faculty of distinction in concert with our string surge in majors (of perhaps 10-20% at the cusp of AY 201-16).