

Online Assessment Tracking Database

Sam Houston State University (SHSU)
2014 - 2015

Sciences, College Of











Goal	To Further Excellence In Teaching 🔑 The College of Sciences will provide the resources, support, and mechanisms to assist departments and faculty in their efforts to improve teaching throughout the college curriculum.
Objective (P)	Recruit Highly Credentialed Faculty 🔑 The college will strive to hire faculty who possess the terminal degree from R1 universities.
KPI Performance Indicator	Highly Credentialed Faculty 🔑 Eighty percent of new faculty hires will possess the terminal degree from R1 institutions
Result	Highly Credentialed Faculty 🔑 The faculty hired during this period all possess the terminal degree in their field, exceeding the desired goal.
Action	Recruiting Quality Faculty 🔑 The dean's office works with the departments to place ads in prominent disciplinary journals and magazines, meets with all candidates to interview them, and makes recommendations, in concert with the departmental search committee, regarding recommendations for hiring.

Goal	To Promote Excellence In Creative Activities And Research 🔑 The College of Sciences will provide the resources and support to facilitate scientific inquiry among faculty and students in the college.
Objective (P)	Provide Appropriate Faculty Travel Funds 🔑 The college will solicit travel requests from faculty members, then request, acquire and allocate appropriate funding for proposed travel.
KPI Performance Indicator	Faculty Travel Funds 🔑 The college will solicit travel requests from faculty members, prioritize these requests, and acquire the necessary funds to facilitate the research and developmental goals of the faculty. Our goal will be to fund 75% of the requests.
Result	Faculty Travel Funds 🔑 All travel requests directed to the College of Sciences Dean's Office from departmental faculty were approved, exceeding the goal of 70%.
Action	Provide Travel Funds 🔑

The College of Sciences Dean's office sets support levels, reflecting different costs for state, national, and international travel to support faculty travel for conference presentations. To maximize impact, the office limited faculty to one request in FY16.

Goal	To Bring Visibility To Programs In The College 🔑 The College of Sciences will actively publish faculty and student accomplishments through local and national media and increase public exposure to scholarly and artistic events on campus.
Objective (P)	Visibility 🔑 The College of Sciences will publicize research and creative accomplishments of faculty and departments in the Heritage magazine, on the website, and in other publications.
KPI Performance Indicator	Visibility 🔑 We will seek to have at least 10 publications of research and creative accomplishments in journals, newsletters, and on websites.
Result	Visibility Of College Of Sciences 🔑 Greater than 10 articles highlighting faculty, students, and activities from the College of Sciences were featured on the main SHSU website, exceeding our goal of 10 articles.
Action	Promotion Of COS Activities 🔑 The College of Sciences and the Departments work closely with the COS webmaster, John Holder, and other university officials in PR to promote and highlight activities within the college. This results in placements on the college and university website and within official university publications.

Goal	To Provide A Rigorous, Current Curriculum 🔑 The College of Sciences will encourage the development of new programs that reflect discipline specific and societal changes. The College will adhere to a formal, rigorous curriculum review process.
Objective (P)	Accreditation Of Programs 🔑 The college will identify all programs that are eligible for accreditation through professional organizations and initiate the accreditation or reaccreditation in each case.
KPI Performance Indicator	Program Accreditation 🔑 Programs that are eligible for accreditation from outside agencies will seek or renew accreditation. For 2013-2014, the goal is to continue revisions to the computer science curriculum to meet ABET standards.

Result	Program Accreditation  The computer science program continues to be accredited by ABET, meeting our goal.
Action	Accreditation Of Programs  The College works closely with the departments that are accredited to remain accredited and to determine if accreditation is warranted for those departments that have accreditation as a disciplinary option. The Computer Science department was recently reaccredited until 2019.
Objective (P)	Restructure College Curriculum Process  The college will establish fixed deadlines for submission of materials to the college curriculum committee and review items thoroughly in a timely manner.
KPI Performance Indicator	College Curriculum Calendar  The calendar for the college curriculum process will be modified and strictly enforced. Our goal is that all proposals will be submitted by the deadline.
KPI Performance Indicator	Approval Of Submitted Curriculum Proposals  At least 90% of curriculum proposals approved by the COS committee will be approved by the University curriculum committee.
Result	College Curriculum Proposals  All proposals except the proposal for the PhD in Digital Forensics were approved. The PhD proposal required additional development to meet THECB approval.
Action	College Curriculum  The College of Sciences Dean's Office manages the curriculum process to expedite course and program development in a timely fashion, allowing courses and programs to proceed without procedural delay. The college has not had any problems with its curriculum development.
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Goal	To Enhance The Quality Of Graduate Programs In The College  The College of Sciences will provide resources, planning and direction that will assist departments in growing quality graduate programs.
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Objective (P)	Provide Adequate Assistantships For Graduate Students  The college will allocate competitive assistantships in a manner that allows each program to recruit the quality and quantity of graduate students necessary to offer a viable graduate program.
KPI Performance Indicator	Percentage Of Graduate Students On Assistantship 

The college will produce a TA report that includes at least 85% full time graduate students who are receiving assistantships in COAS

Result

Graduate Assistantships 🔑

We did not meet the goal of 85% of all full time graduate students receiving assistantships. However, 5 additional TA lines were received for 2016 FY.

Action

Supporting Graduate Education 🔑

5 additional TA lines in Chemistry were obtained for FY16 in order to allow this program to grow to a more optimal size. At the College of Sciences retreat, the program capacity and desire to add additional TA lines were determined for each graduate program. Additional resources will be requested in the FY17 budget request.

Objective (P)

Provide Adequate Graduate Scholarships 🔑

The college will provide an adequate number of \$1500 scholarships to assist in the recruitment and retention of high caliber graduate students. Due to low overall stipends and an inability to waive tuition, merit scholarships are needed to attract out-of-state and international students to graduate programs.

KPI Performance Indicator

Percentage Of Graduate Students On Scholarship 🔑

The college will produce a report of at least 30 scholarship recipients that includes the percentage of full time graduate students who receive scholarships through the COS office

Result

College Scholarships 🔑

We met the goal of providing 30 college scholarships for graduate students.

Action

Supporting Graduate Education 🔑

Additional funding for graduate students to obtain in-state tuition will be requested for FY17 to allow 10 additional students to receive a scholarship. Due to growth of graduate students in the program, this will keep the percentage of students receiving a scholarship from declining.

Previous Cycle's "Plan for Continuous Improvement"

We will continue to use a variety of media to advertise open faculty positions with the goal of having a large and diverse faculty applicant pool.

We will supplement travel funding with discretionary funds if needed. We have a proposed budget of \$10,000 to allow for this if requested.

We will resubmit to ABET for continued accreditation for the CS undergraduate degree program and continue to explore options for ABET accreditation for the Engineering Technology program once we have sufficient numbers of faculty to qualify.

We will continue to publicize departmental seminars, special guest speakers, departmental conferences on campus, and special achievements of students and faculty.

We will request additional funding for graduate positions and stipend amounts/scholarships in our budget request and from the Graduate Studies office.

We will solicit funding from donors for graduate scholarships through the advancement office.

We will present a detailed fundraising plan to the Office of Advancement that they can use to present to potential donors to allow us to reach 85% of all graduate students funded.

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 will continue to use a variety of media to advertise open faculty positions with the goal of having a large and diverse faculty applicant pool.

We were successful in hiring a Hispanic faculty member in Biology and an African-American female faculty member in Mathematics.

We will supplement travel funding with discretionary funds if needed. We have a proposed budget of \$10,000 to allow for this if requested.

We did not have to supplement the travel funds as they were sufficient.

We will resubmit to ABET for continued accreditation for the CS undergraduate degree program and continue to explore options for ABET accreditation for the Engineering Technology program once we have sufficient numbers of faculty to qualify.

We continued accreditation from ABET for CS and received funding to hire a faculty member in Engineering Technology with ABET experience to begin the accreditation process.

We will continue to publicize departmental seminars, special guest speakers, departmental conferences on campus, and special achievements of students and faculty.

We reached this goal through the COS website and the SHSU website.

We will request additional funding for graduate positions and stipend amounts/scholarships in our budget request and from the Graduate Studies office.

We received an additional 5 TA lines (approximately \$65,000) for use in the FY16 year to support chemistry graduate students.

We will solicit funding from donors for graduate scholarships through the advancement office.

We did not receive any additional funding for graduate scholarships from the office of advancement

We will present a detailed fundraising plan to the Office of Advancement that they can use to present to potential donors to allow us to reach 85% of all graduate students funded.

We continue to work with advancement to support college activities, including graduate scholarships.

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.

Attracting diverse applicants requires active methods to seek out candidates. We will work with AA to develop such methods in this upcoming year.

Additional funding for graduate student stipends will be sought through new initiative funding

and budget reallocation within the college.

We will use the COS facebook site to publicize departmental and college activities.

We will hire an experienced faculty member who has developed ABET assessment plans for Engineering Technology and will begin the process for ABET accreditation in ET during the FY17.
