

# **Texas A&M International University**

## **Annual Institutional Effectiveness Review (AIER)**

**Date Submitted** January 31, 2007

**Assessment Period Covered (2006)**

**Academic Program/AES Unit** First Year Success Program

**Person(s) Preparing Review** Kristen Standage, EdD

### **Provide summary of the last cycle's use of results and changes implemented**

Evaluation results indicated a slight increase in enrollment of both cohorts for their second year on campus. However, this is difficult to attribute to direct actions of the First Year Success Program. We will continue to provide mentoring services to all of the members of the GENU classes on a weekly basis (approximately half of the new freshmen) and will continue to offer our services to new transfer students. In addition, we will offer more opportunities for the new students to interact with each other, in order to form more of a relationship with the University environment. FYSP mentors will continue to become more involved with on-site registration each spring and serve as Orientation leaders each fall and spring.

## Section I: Planning and Implementation

### **Institutional Mission**

Texas A&M International University, a Member of The Texas A&M University System, prepares students for leadership roles in their chosen profession in an increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society ... Through instruction, faculty and student research, and public service, Texas A&M International University embodies a strategic point of delivery for well-defined programs and services that improve the quality of life for citizens of the border region, the State of Texas, and national and international communities.

### **Academic Program or Administrative/Educational Support Unit Mission**

The Texas A & M International University First Year Success Program is dedicated to student retention by enhancing the educational, career, and personal success of first-time students attending as freshmen or as transfer students of higher levels. Student success is promoted by coordinating an array of services that are responsive to our students' unique needs, and by personally linking the students to the appropriate service, such as tutoring, counseling, job-seeking, test preparation, financial aid and other University support services. This is accomplished by an array of communication formats, such as face-to-face advising at time of need, weekly meetings with individual students, and phone calls to disseminate relevant information. In addition, the program offers staff accessibility throughout the day, thus assuring a support network throughout the difficult first year university experience.

**Identify outcomes and the relationship to Strategic Plan**

**Outcome 1**

**Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**

The First Year Success Program will provide satisfactory services to entering freshmen.

**Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 1**

Goal 1 Academics

**Identify Strategic Plan Objective related to Outcome 1**

1.8 Provide support programs, services and activities that promote student learning and enhance student development.

**Identify methods of assessment to be used**

Any entering freshmen participating in an FYSP activity will complete the Student Information Survey.

**Indicate when assessment will take place**

Annual

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Entering freshmen will indicate at least a 90% satisfaction rate with the services provided by the First Year Success Program.

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**Outcome 2**

**Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**

The First Year Success Program will provide satisfactory services to entering transfer students.

**Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 2**

Goal 1 Academics

**Identify Strategic Plan Objective related to Outcome 2**

1.8 Provide support programs, services and activities that promote student learning and enhance student development.

**Identify methods of assessment to be used**

Any entering transfer students participating in an FYSP activity will complete the Student Information Survey.

**Indicate when assessment will take place**

Annual

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Entering transfer students will indicate at least a 90% satisfaction rate with the services provided by the First Year Success Program.

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**Outcome 3**

**Is this outcome related to writing (QEP)?**

The First Year Success Program will conduct academic and University-related workshops for entering freshmen students

**Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 3**

Goal 1 Academics

**Identify Strategic Plan Objective related to Outcome 3**

1.8 Provide support programs, services and activities that promote student learning and enhance student development.

**Identify methods of assessment to be used**

Each freshmen participating in an FYSP workshop will complete the Student Information Survey.

**Indicate when assessment will take place**

Annual

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Entering freshmen students will indicate at least a 90% satisfaction rate with the workshops provided by the First Year Success Program.

## Section II: Analysis of Results

### **When (term/date) was assessment conducted?**

#### **Outcome 1**

At the end of both the Spring 2006 and Fall 2006 semesters

#### **Outcome 2**

As the activity was completed

#### **Outcome 3**

As the end of each workshop

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### **What were the results attained (raw data)?**

#### **Outcome 1**

An overall satisfaction rate of 91% was achieved. (n=307)

#### **Outcome 2**

An overall satisfaction rate of 100% was achieved. (n=9)

#### **Outcome 3**

An overall satisfaction rate of 93% was achieved. (n=210)

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### **Who (specify names) conducted analysis of data?**

#### **Outcome 1**

Kristen Standage

#### **Outcome 2**

Kristen Standage

#### **Outcome 3**

Kristen Standage

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### **When were the results and analysis shared and with whom (department chair, supervisor, staff, external stakeholders)? Submit minutes with data analysis to [assessment@tamiu.edu](mailto:assessment@tamiu.edu) (Please use Minutes Template located on the [Project INTEGRATE web page.](#))**

The Spring 2006 survey forms were distributed to each mentor at the end of the semester during a weekly staff meeting ( May 5, 2006). The Fall 2006 survey forms were distributed to each mentor during the weekly staff meeting of January 19,2007. The results will be shared with the administrative staff of PASE at a Directors' meeting the week of February 5, 2007. Performance reviews will be given this semester to the returning mentors from the fall semester, and at that time, the surveys will be discussed to determine areas requiring

improvement. Consensus areas will be addressed throughout the semester via training in the weekly staff meetings.

**NOTE: Submit all assessment documentation (i.e., surveys, rubrics, course exams with embedded questions, etc.) to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning.**

**Use of Results: Indicate whether criteria were met/not met and what changes, if any, have been identified based on the data collected?**

**Outcome 1**

Met    Not Met

**Provide narrative:** The criterion was met. While most surveys did not include specific written comments, any adverse comments or rankings are discussed in training sessions, in order to improve delivery.

**Outcome 2**

Met    Not Met

**Provide narrative:** Only 9 transfer students were identified as receiving services (advising) during 2006. The focus for 2007 will be the incoming freshmen. We, of course, will continue to provide services for any transfer student who requests them, but our program has changed to concentrate solely on the freshman population.

**Outcome 3**

Met    Not Met

**Provide narrative:** The criterion was met. While most surveys did not include specific written comments, any adverse comments or rankings are discussed in training sessions, in order to improve delivery.

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**How have these data-based changes improved your program/unit?**

All comments are taken as constructive criticism and incorporated into the training modules relating to the specific area of comment. One offshoot of the consistently high ratings the program receives has been the implementation of increasing the mentor program to include all freshmen. This will begin in the Fall of 2007. The incoming freshmen class will be required to take the Freshman Seminars, UNIV 1101 their first semester and UNIV 1102 their second semester. As an integral part of that class, each freshmen will meet with a Student Mentor. Because of the large number of freshmen and the limited number of mentors, each mentor will meet with each freshman assigned for one half-hour every other week, for both fall and spring semesters. Each mentor will be assigned an average of 45 freshmen (last fall, each mentor met with approximately 25 freshmen students for one half hour weekly). The number students seen will double, and the added benefit will be the extended period of time. The mentor will truly be able to assist the freshman through his or her first full year in college.

Section III: Programmatic Review

**Are resources affected by the changes identified in Section II?**  Yes  No

**If so, specify the effect(s) using the chart below:**

Funding	Physical	Other
<input type="checkbox"/> New resources required	<input type="checkbox"/> New or reallocated space	<input type="checkbox"/> Primarily faculty/staff time
<input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation of current funds		<input type="checkbox"/> University rule/procedure change only
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: Enter text here

**Provide a narrative description and justification for requested resources (include linkage to Strategic Plan)**

<b>Identify proposed outcomes for the next assessment cycle:</b>
Continuation of present outcome(s) – (Indicate reason for continuation): We will continue with outcomes 1 and 3, however, we will drop outcome 2 and add a new outcome.
New Outcome(s) – (List outcomes below): The student mentors will provide satisfactory services to the faculty of UNIV 1101 and UNIV 1102.
Modification of present outcome(s) – (Indicate reason for modification): Enter text here

**\*\*\*\* This section to be completed by dean/director/vice-president \*\*\*\***

**Are resources requested a priority for the academic program/AES unit?**

Yes  No

**Comments:**

**If funding, physical or other resources were requested, what is the impact of the budget decisions on the academic program/AES unit?**

Enter text here