

Texas Southern University
Assessment Narrative
Academic Years 2007-08 thru 2009-10

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Academic Support Unit

THECB CIP Code Not Applicable

Texas Southern University's mission dedicates the university to providing quality instruction, scholarly research, and socially responsible public service. The Graduate School supports this mission by training the next generation of professional practitioners and research scholars. Texas Southern offers 27 masters, three doctor of education, and four (4) Ph.D. programs. The graduate faculty focuses on both education and scholarly research. Students have the opportunity to work with world renowned scholars as they progress in their training.

Goal 1

The first goal of the Graduate School was to increase enrollment to support the University's mission of providing access to graduate and professional education. The objectives related to this goal were to increase the number of:

- Recruiting activities and events attended;
- Applicants to graduate programs; and
- Students enrolled in graduate programs.

Objective 1.1

Increase the number of recruiting activities and events attended.

Findings (2008-2010)

The metric for this objective was the number of recruiting visits and activities attended. Targets for each of the three years 2008-2010 were 20 recruiting visits and activities attended. With 5, 9, and 15 events attended during 2008, 2009, and 2010, respectively, the Graduate School did not meet the first objective due to a lack of funding. The Graduate School developed a funding mechanism for increased recruiting and for improved recruiting materials.

Action Plan Summary

- Based on 2007-2008 – Requested and used funding from the Graduate Student fee to increase the number of recruiting trips that the recruiter attends each year;
- Based on 2008-2009 – Upgraded and finalize its new recruiting materials; and
- Based on 2009-2010 – Significantly strengthened web presence to attract more students online.

Objective 1.2

Increase the number of applicants to graduate programs.

Findings (2008-2010)

The metric for this objective was the number of applications to the Graduate School. Targets for each of the three years 2008-2010 was applications would increase by 10 percent per year. With 423; 1,081; and 1,402 applications received during 2008, 2009, and 2010, respectively, the Graduate School met the second objective. Despite this success, the Graduate School developed the following action plan to emphasize continuous improvement.

Action Plan Summary – 2008-2010

In order to increase enrollment in graduate programs, increased the number of recruiting activities. In addition, provided professional development training for the recruiter.

Objective 1.3

Increase the number of students enrolled in graduate programs

Findings (2008-2010)

The metric for this objective was the number of students enrolled in the Graduate School. Targets for each of the three years 2008-2010 were an increase of 10 percent in enrollment per year. Enrollment increased 6.36 percent in 2008, 26.9 percent in 2009, and 27.67 percent in 2010. Accordingly, the Graduate School met this objective. Despite this success, the Graduate School developed the following action plan to emphasize continuous improvement.

Action Plan Summary – 2008-2010

Based on 2008-2010 – Increased recruiting efforts, developed new programs, with particular focus on on-line programs.

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Goal 2

The second goal of the Graduate School was to provide support for graduate students to increase completion rates and reduce the time to complete the program. The objectives related to this goal were to increase the amount of support:

- Available to students in the form of tuition assistantships; and
- For student development in the form of support for student participation in academic conferences.

Objective 2.1

Increase the amount of support available to students in the form of tuition assistantships

Findings (2008-2010)

The metric for this objective was the number of assistantships awarded. The target for 2008 and 2009 was that the Graduate School would develop a fellowship program. For 2010, the Graduate School's goal was to award at least 40 assistantships. In 2008 and 2009, the program was rejected as too costly. In 2010, the Fellowship program was funded by a new graduate school fee and 39 fellowships were awarded. The following action plan was developed to improve results.

Action Plan Summary

Based on 2008-2010 – Developed a plan for funding fellowships through a new Graduate School fee, 2008-2009 Proposal redesigned and resubmitted.

Objective 2.2

Increase the amount of support for student development in the form of support for student participation in academic conferences

Findings (2008-2010)

The metric for this objective was the number of students awarded support. Targets for each of the three years 2008-2010 were that at least 8 travel grants would be awarded. With 4, 6, and 6 travel grants awarded during 2008, 2009, and 2010, respectively, the Graduate School did not meet this objective. The Graduate School developed the following action plan to emphasize continuous improvement.

Action Plan Summary

Better publicized awards; created uniform paperwork for awards to ensure proper processing of awards. These improvements will improve the effectiveness of the program.

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Graduate School

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Goal	Outcomes/ Objectives	Metric	Target			Findings			Action Plan	Reference Document
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10		
Goal 1 Increase enrollment in the Graduate School to support the University's mission of providing access to graduate and professional education	SLO 1.1 To increase the number of recruiting activities and events attended	Number of recruiting visits and activities attended	20 recruiting visits and activities attended	20 recruiting visits and activities attended	20 recruiting visits and activities attended	5 events attended	9 events attended	15 events attended	Based on 2007-2008 Findings Requested and used funding from the Graduate Student fee to increase the number of recruiting trips that the recruiter attends each year Based on 2008-2009 Findings Upgraded and finalize its new recruiting materials Based on 2009-2010 Findings Significantly strengthened web presence to attract more students online	R1.1 Events summary
	SLO 1.2 To increase the number of applicants to Graduate programs	Number of applications to the Graduate School	Applications will increase by 10% a year	Applications will increase by 10% a year	Applications will increase by 10% a year	423 applications received baseline	1081 applications received, an increase of (156%)	1402 applications received, (29.7%)	Based on 2008-2010 Findings In order to increase enrollment in graduate programs, increased the number of recruiting activities. In addition, provided professional development training for the recruiter	R1.2 Admissions summary
	SLO 1.3 To increase the number of students enrolled in Graduate programs	Number of students enrolled	Enrollment in Graduate programs will increase by 10% per year	Enrollment in Graduate programs will increase by 10% per year	Enrollment in Graduate programs will increase by 10% per year	Enrollment increased from 881 in Fall 2007 to 937 in Fall 2008, (6.36%) increase	Enrollment increased from 937 in Fall 2008 to 1189 in Fall 2009, (26.9%) increase	Enrollment increased from 1189 in Fall 2009 to 1518 in Fall 2011, (27.67%)	Based on 2008-2010 Findings Increased recruiting efforts, developed new programs, with particular focus on on-line programs	R1.3 Graduate enrollment by school

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			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10		
Goal 2 Provide support for graduate students to increase completion rates and reduce time to complete the program	Objective 2.1 To increase the amount of support available to students in the form of tuition assistantships	Number of assistantships awarded	The Graduate School will develop a fellowship program	The Graduate School will develop a fellowship program	The Graduate School will award at least 40 assistantships	Fellowship program proposed – rejected as too costly	Fellowship program revised and proposed again rejected	Fellowship proposal funded by new graduate school fee accepted – 39 fellowships awarded in Fall 2010	Based on 2008-2010 Findings Developed a plan for funding fellowships through a new Graduate School fee, 2008-2009 Proposal redesigned and resubmitted	R2.1 2007-2010 budget proposals
	Objective 2.2 To increase the amount of support for student development in the form of support for student participation in academic conferences	Number of students awarded support	At least 8 travel grants will be awarded	At least 8 travel grants will be awarded	At least 8 travel grants will be awarded	4 awarded	6 Awarded	6 Awarded – only 3 eventually funded.	Based on 2008-2010 Findings Better publicized awards. Created uniform paperwork for awards to ensure proper processing of awards. These improvements will improve the effectiveness of the program	R2.2 List of award travel grant recipients