What's New?

May SPA News is here! As you know the SPA News is our newest form of communication. This newsletter will be published monthly during the Spring and Fall terms. Copies of the newsletter can be found at our Strategic Planning & Assessment website. Although contents may vary, monthly core elements will include the following:

- * **What's New** – Any news related to Planning and Assessment that might be useful for you to know.
- * **Activities, Dates and Tips** – Important activities, deadlines, and tips for ACE and SLO task owners and leaders.
- * **Promising Practice Element(s)** – A showcase of exemplary Planning and Assessment practices.
- * **Assessment Services, Tools and Resources** – services and support that our Planning and Assessment team provides.

> **Did you know?**
> **Lone Star has increased its Fall Course Success Rates two years in a row!**
> Fall 2014 = 67.9%
> Fall 2015 = 69.7%   **+ 2.6%**
> Fall 2016 = 70.5%
> Importantly, rates for Hispanic, Black and White students have all increased.

⭐ Lone Star College is preparing its SACS/COC 5th Year Interim Report. The completed report will be sent out on September 1, 2017. As many of you know, we began preparing the report over a year ago, and Lone Star College is now in the final stages of preparation. **To ensure that we meet the reporting due date, we ask that all leaders and relevant personnel provide required documentation in a timely manner. Your leadership and support are greatly appreciated.**

Activities, Dates and Tips

As announced on the Curriculum Team days in the past, we had to move the date for submitting the SLO and PLO closing-the-loop reports to June 15. Please note the red highlighted date below:

Dates	SLO/PLO	Tips
May 20, 2017	**Selected Faculty** - Submit SLO assessment data to SLO Data Collection Tool, needed by SPA to produce aggregated and disaggregated reports	Make sure you submit dual credit and online data in addition to your main campus and face-to-face sections' data
May 30, 2017	**SPA** – Send aggregated and disaggregated reports to deans, chairs, program directors, and discipline assessment liaisons	Reports will include aggregated reports for all modes of instruction and all sites, as well as disaggregated results by dual credit and online sections vs. main campus and face-to-face sections.
June 15, 2017	**Discipline Assessment Liaisons** - Submit SLO Spring 2017 Closing-the Loop-Reports in Compliance Assist **Program Directors/Assessment Liaisons** - Submit PLO AY 2016-17 Closing-the Loop-Reports in compliance Assist	*Present disaggregated data, as well as aggregated data (include dual credit and online data in the Results section) *Analyze data by commenting on what factors contributed to the results (include discussion of dual credit and online data); *Make sure your recommendations are **specific and actionable**. Again, make sure you recommend changes for dual credit and online courses). For examples, click here.

Activities, Dates and Tips *(continued)*

Dates	ACE	Tips
May, 2017	Collect data for closing the loop on AY 2016-17.	Collect data based on the Methods of Assessment and Targets of Achievement.
June, 2017	Start planning activities for AY 2017-18.	Conduct the SWOT activity and use data relevant to your unit's mission to look for opportunities to improve your areas of services.

Success Headlines from Across the Campuses

⭐ Under the leadership of Executive Vice Chancellor, Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith, Lone Star College is developing a comprehensive Strategic Enrollment Management Plan. Seven SEM subcommittees were formed to engage stakeholders in all areas in developing a data-driven, research-based Strategic Enrollment Management Plan. Implementation of this plan will contribute to the increase in student enrollment, retention, and completion.

⭐ During the academic year 2015-16, Lone Star Colleges across the system implemented numerous initiatives to support LSC strategic goals and to promote student success and community success.

This month we highlight 5 of LSC-Kingwood's IE Success Stories based on 5 Exemplary ACE Reports:
- **Fire Science Department:** Engaging Students in Campus and Community Events
- **Division of Science & Health Occupations (SHO):** Promoting Heath Occupations and Science Programs
- **Biology Department:** Increase Course Completion with Support from Supplemental Instruction
- **Government Department:** Promoting Civic Engagement Activities
- **LSC-Atascocita Center:** Supporting Students Based on their Needs

Click on the link below to read the detailed stories:

   LSC-Kingwood Success Stories

Make sure to read June's SPA News for LSC-Montgomery's highlighted ACE Reports. Other campuses will be featured in the subsequent months.

Spotlighting Promising Practices

This month we would like to recognize **LSC-Tomball** for implementing research-based initiatives to promote student success.

⭐ Under the leadership of LSC-Tomball president, Dr. Lee Ann Nutt, and an advisory committee comprised of faculty and staff, LSC-Tomball is implementing a research-based initiative – the Global GRIT Initiative (GGI). GRIT is defined by Dr. Paul G. Stoltz as a person's "capacity to dig deep and do whatever it takes—even sacrifice, struggle and suffer—to achieve his/her most worthy goals in the best ways." GRIT is also an acronym for Growth, Resilience, Instinct and Tenacity. However, more than the quantity of GRIT someone has, the quality of their GRIT matters too. Good, strong and smart GRIT is the optimal combination. According to 30-years of research by Dr. Stoltz, GRIT is predictive of positive life outcomes such as employment status and ability to move up in life.

Believing that GRIT could also positively impact college key performance indicators such as persistence, degree completion and retention, LSC-Tomball launched its GRIT initiative in the Spring 2015 semester and has continued to infuse GRIT into its culture, embedding it into the classroom and the curriculum, into extra-curricular activities and in student support programs. From an assessment standpoint, LSC-Tomball has been tracking the project's outcomes. Based on an experiment in the Fall 2015 semester that included random assignment of faculty, classes in the experimental group (With GRIT) had a 3% higher course completion rate than the control group (No New GRIT). Another significant finding was that students' GRIT Gauge™ scores improved an average of 22 points on a post-test at the end of the semester, compared to pre-test scores at the beginning of the semester. LSC-Tomball continues to provide the GRIT Gauge™ to each student twice each semester. As such, GRIT data has been collected from more than 3,000 students. The goal is to upload GRIT Gauge™ data into iStar this summer so additional analysis can be completed. Ultimately LSC-Tomball hopes this data will be incorporated into Civitas Illume as a predictive variable for student persistence.

LSC-Tomball is a leader among community colleges nationally on this effort, and their second annual GRIT Summit is scheduled for October 13, 2017. In early fall, LSC-Tomball's GRIT story will be the topic of the public television show "Informed with Rob Lowe." Filming at the college will occur early Fall 2017. For more information, contact Dr. Nutt at LeeAnn.Nutt@lonestar.edu or GGI Chair, Latoya Hardman Lewis at Latoya.H.Lewis@lonestar.edu .

Invitation to Nomination: Do you feel your team has a Promising Practice you would like to share with the Lone Star Community? If so, please send your nomination to the SPA team, and we will publish the Promising Practices in our newsletter. After all, we are *Better Together!*

Planning and Assessment Services, Tools, Resources

⭐ We provide the following services:

ACE	SLO/PLO
✓ Closing-the-loop of your 2016-17 ACE 　o Did things work? 　o How do I know? 　o How do I schedule a SPA supported computer lab day to enter ACE information into Compliance Assist? ✓ Planning for next year's ACE 　o What data should I use in planning? 　o Is the story in the data good, bad, or ugly? 　o How do I ask for additional resources to accomplish objectives? 　o How do my efforts link to the larger Strategic Plan? 　o What are the other colleges doing? ✓ Teamwork 　o How do I rally my team to accomplish our goals? 　o How do I pull together a team meeting for ACE Planning? ✓ Process 　o How do I get a special worksheet or tool to help me with ACE?	✓ Closing-the-loop of your Fall 2016 SLO assessment 　o How to make actionable recommendations? 　o How to include online and dual credit data in your data discussion and recommendations? 　o How do I schedule a SPA supported computer lab day to enter SLO information into Compliance Assist? ✓ Supporting Spring 2017 SLO Assessment 　o How to use the e-Form to select sections? 　o How to submit data using SLO Data Collection Tool? 　o What is the difference between assessment assignments and evaluation instrument? 　o What is the difference between group mastery rate and individual student mastery level? 　o How to set the target of achievement? ✓ Communication with Faculty 　o What faculty need to know about assessment? 　o How to engage faculty in data analysis and use of data for action? ✓ Assessment Tools 　o What are the differences between e-form and CT Form, between Compliance Assist and SLO Data Collection Tool?

⭐ SPA Online Tools and Resources

Strategic Planning and Assessment Website: http://www.lonestar.edu/SPA.htm

IE Website: http://www.lonestar.edu/institutional-effectiveness.htm

ACE Handbook: http://www.lonestar.edu/images/ACE-Handbook-LSC-2016-Final1.pdf

ACE One-Page View: http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/institutionaleffectiveness/ACE_One_Pager_-_FINAL_-_July_2016(1).pdf

SLO Website: http://www.lonestar.edu/student-learning-outcomes.htm

SLO Handbook: http://www.lonestar.edu/documents/2-SLO-Handbook-2015-Final.pdf

SLO/PLO Timeline: http://www.lonestar.edu/departments/institutionaleffectiveness/SLO-PLO%20Timeline%20(AY2016-17-18)-Merged.pdf

⭐ SPA Team Contact Information

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