



Susan E. Brown
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Susan E. Brown joined the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in February 1987 and now serves as Assistant Commissioner for Planning and Accountability. She has served as the Board representative for the Education Research Centers in cooperation with the Texas Education Agency. She was responsible for the initial development of the higher education Accountability System developed in 2004. Currently, the operations of the Educational Data Center which is responsible for receiving data from Texas institutions, reports to her. She also oversees a range of activities for the agency including development of the funding formulas under which Texas institutions receive a major portion of their state appropriations; review of facilities projects at universities, health-related institutions, and technical and state colleges. In addition, she is responsible for making updates to the state's higher education plan, *Closing the Gaps by 2015*. Susan holds a marketing degree from Texas A&M University.



Accountability System

Presentation for Joint Hearing of
**Senate Committee on Higher Education &
House Committee on Higher Education**
Interim Charge #9

August 19, 2010

Accountability System—Timeline



- ▶ **January 2004**
 - ✓ Governor Perry Executive Order directed THECB and institutions to work together "...to determine the effectiveness and quality of the education students receive...."
- ▶ **January-December 2004**
 - ✓ *Council of University Presidents and Chancellors Survey* to identify measures
 - ✓ Group meetings conducted to finalize measures and identify group targets
 - ✓ Measures calculated
 - ✓ Community colleges determined measures and reporting groups
- ▶ **October 2004**
 - ✓ Accountability System adopted by THECB
- ▶ **December 2004**
 - ✓ First Accountability Report completed

Accountability System—Organization



- ✓ Based on the four *Closing the Gaps* goals: Participation, Success, Research, and Excellence

- ✓ Includes an efficiency and effectiveness goal

Texas Higher Education Accountability System

The Higher Education Accountability System is used to track performance on critical measures that ensure higher education institutions' success. The System is modeled on the state's higher education plan, *Closing the Gaps*. The major focus is on the four *Closing the Gaps* target areas of participation, success, research, and excellence.

Use this tool to customize data by time periods, to select components and to specify institutional priorities. Select an institution type from the "Institution Type" dropdown menu. The "Data" and "Export" options are available.

Type:

Participation

By 2015, increase the gap in participation rates across Texas to add 252,000 more students

- Universities
- State College Institutions
- Texas State Technical Colleges and Junior State Colleges
- Community Colleges
- Closing the Gaps Institution Targets (2010-2015)

Success

By 2015, award 250,000 undergraduate degrees, certificates and other certificate student success from high-quality programs

- Universities
- State College Institutions
- Texas State Technical Colleges and Junior State Colleges
- Community Colleges
- Closing the Gaps Institution Targets (2010-2015)

Research

By 2015, increase the level of federal science and engineering awards to 5 percent of discretionary higher education institutions' success

- Universities
- State College Institutions
- Closing the Gaps Institution Targets (2010-2015)
- Additional Criteria, Details

Excellence

By 2015, substantially increase the number of nationally recognized programs or services at colleges and universities in Texas.

Efficiency and Effectiveness

- Universities
- State College Institutions
- Texas State Technical Colleges and Junior State Colleges
- Community Colleges
- Patient Care
- Health-Related Initiatives

Accountability System—Organization



Participation - Key Measures

Enrollment

1. Fall headcount

Multiplicated institutional fall headcount enrollment by race and ethnicity. Post-baccalaureate students are in a separate category. Fall entry students are not included.
Source: CS/ISSI fall semester report

	Fall 2009 2009	Fall 2008 2008	Fall 2007 2007
Total	644,220	588,136	532,226
White	242,784 (37.7%)	222,543 (37.8%)	207,591 (39.0%)
African-American	157,987 (24.5%)	157,717 (26.8%)	151,811 (28.5%)
Hispanic	81,152 (12.6%)	123,823 (21.1%)	133,542 (25.1%)
Asian	27,225 (4.2%)	33,171 (5.6%)	25,496 (4.8%)
Other	17,172 (2.7%)	50,902 (8.7%)	38,797 (7.3%)

Academic Credit

Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment

2. Fall semester credit hours (FTE) includes undergraduate (U), master's (M), doctoral (D), special professional (S), and continuing (C).

	Fall 2009 2009	Fall 2008 2008	Fall 2007 2007
Total	321,818	463,437	417,875
White	191,746 (59.6%)	256,167 (55.3%)	267,814 (64.1%)
African-American	32,817 (10.2%)	42,847 (9.3%)	39,041 (9.3%)
Hispanic	39,627 (12.3%)	57,515 (12.4%)	53,195 (12.7%)
Asian	14,355 (4.5%)	24,069 (5.2%)	22,244 (5.3%)
Other	23,272 (7.2%)	32,938 (7.1%)	35,581 (8.5%)

- ✓ Small number of key accountability measures for each goal

Accountability System—Key Measures



- ✓ **Participation:** Enrollment and Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment
- ✓ **Success:** 4-, 5-, 6-year graduation rates, number of degrees awarded, number of degrees awarded in critical fields, 6-year graduation and persistence rate
- ✓ **Excellence:** Student/Faculty ratio, licensure exam pass rates, tenured/tenure-track faculty teaching lower-division SCH, percent of FTE teaching faculty who are tenured/tenure-track
- ✓ **Research:** Federal and private expenditures per FTE faculty, total research expenditures, federal and private research funds per revenue appropriations
- ✓ **Efficiencies & Effectiveness:** Administrative cost ratio, space usage efficiency, appropriations per FTE student/faculty, operating expenditures per FTE student, total FTE student/teaching faculty

Accountability System—Organization



- ✓ **Additional Contextual Measures to provide additional data on each goal.**

Participation - Contextual Measures		
	Fall 2009	Fall 2008
3. First-time undergraduates from Texas top 10%	20.6%	
4. First-time entering applicants accepted	62.9%	
5. First-time accepted, enrolled	51.9%	
	FY 2009	
6. Racial and ethnic composition of Texas public high school graduates		
White		51.6%
African American		12.3%
Hispanic		22.1%
Asian		3.2%
Other		8.2%
	Fall 2009	Fall 2008
7. Transfers from Texas 2-year colleges with at least 30 semester credit hours	79,887 (24.6%)	111,657
8. Semester Credit Hours		
Total undergraduate semester credit hours	3,862,470	
Total graduate semester credit hours	654,225	
Percentage graduate SCH to total SCH	14.3%	

Accountability System—Organization



- ✓ Institutions are grouped to facilitate “like” comparisons.
- ✓ Groups include: Research, Emerging Research, Doctoral, Comprehensive, and Master’s
- ✓ Groupings are not permanent or prescriptive
- ✓ Reviewed every two years to reflect current institutional missions and changing higher education needs
- ✓ Focus on improving performance
 - Groups meet 1-2 times annually to review measures, share successful strategies, and review/set targets

Texas is a national leader for using data to drive policy



National Governor’s Association, “Complete to Compete”
(July 2010):

Recommendation 1: *Clarify Definitions for Completion Metrics*

Texas: Developed recommended metrics beginning in 2004 and continue to refine with input from institutions

Recommendation 2: *Collect College Completion Data*

Texas: Collects and reports all recommended metrics

Recommendation 3: *Disaggregate Completion Metrics*

Texas: Disaggregates many metrics and will improve efforts beginning in 2011

Recommendation 4: *Report Data Annually on All Completion Metrics*

Texas: Reports metrics as part of annual progress report and in annually updated institutional resumes

Texas data is more comprehensive than metrics used nationally



Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)

- ✓ Calculates graduation rates for **same** institutions for comparison across institutions and states.
- ✓ Texas calculates graduation rates for **same and other** institutions, offering a better representation of Texas higher education system.

National Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS); Institute of Education Sciences (U.S. Dept. of Ed.); others

- ✓ Define "degree" as Associate's, Bachelor's, Masters, Doctorate and Professional Degrees (e.g. J.D.)
- ✓ Texas defines success to include Certificates which are a critical component for workforce

Texas data is more comprehensive than metrics used nationally, con't



Part-time students

- ✓ IPEDS and others do not accurately capture part-time students in data.
- ✓ Texas captures part-time students, regardless of total time-to-degree or institution they ultimately graduate from within Texas, as part of total degree count.

Transfer students

- ✓ IPEDS does not accurately capture transfer students in graduation rates.
- ✓ Texas captures all students that entered as full-time and transferred to any institution in the state of Texas.
- ✓ Students that enter as part-time students and transfer are captured in total degree counts.

Efforts have been made to make accountability data more relevant to users



Coordinating Board has developed *Institutional Resumes* using accountability data and other relevant data in formats targeted for policymakers as well as parents/students

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with the following items: Closing the Gaps Higher Education Plan, Applying and Paying for College, Academic Affairs, P-16 Initiatives, Finance and Resource Planning, Data Resources and Tools, Communications and Publications, Laws and Rules, Research and Project Grants, **Online Institutional Resumes** (circled in red), Star Awards, Related Links, and Contact Us. The main content area features an article titled 'The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's higher education plan, Closing the Gaps, the state's economy will experience spending, \$194 billion in gross state product as the creation of over 1,023,000 new jobs investment in higher education is estimated. Policymakers, education leaders, the business fact, all Texans - have a vested interest help ensure a prosperous future for our state.' Below this is a section for 'Issues of Current Interest' with links for 'Formula Funding Recommendations for the 2012-2013 Biennium (pdf)', 'Proposed Budget Reduction Plan for 2010-11', and 'Uniform Admission Policy'.

Efforts are underway to make data more accessible and user-friendly



Coordinating Board is redesigning data website, which includes Accountability System, so that it is more intuitive, accessible, and relevant to all users.

The screenshot shows the 'T * E * X * A * S HIGHER EDUCATION DATA' website. It features a search bar, a navigation menu with links like 'Guides Links', 'HS to College', 'Higher Education System', 'Data by Institution Type', and 'Online Applications', and a data table. The data table has columns for '2002', '2003', '2004', '2005', and '2006'. Below the table is a 'Search Links' section with various filters.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
1,338	1,338	1,338	1,338	1,338	1,338
1,342	1,342	1,342	1,342	1,342	1,342
13,400	13,400	13,400	13,400	13,400	13,400
27,624	27,624	27,624	27,624	27,624	27,624
31,750	31,750	31,750	31,750	31,750	31,750
45,110	45,110	45,110	45,110	45,110	45,110
224,549	224,549	224,549	224,549	224,549	224,549

Issue annually, by institution reports detailing critical accountability data



- ✓ Publicize key data by institution
- ✓ Explicitly tie into statewide Closing the Gaps goals and the Accelerated Action Plan
- ✓ Make relevant to policy makers as well as students/parents