



Leopard Dreams

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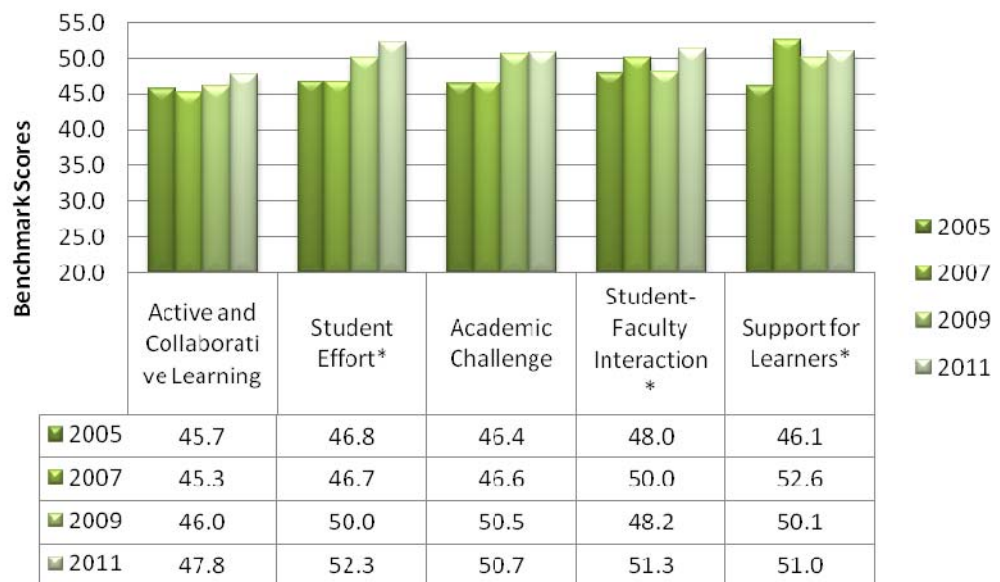
Temple College Uses CCSSE to Inform the Achieving the Dream Initiative

Achieving the Dream is built on four principles of institutional improvement and a five-step process for increasing student success. The four principles are committed leadership, use of evidence to improve programs and services, broad engagement, and systemic institutional improvement. The five-steps are commit to improving student outcomes; use data to prioritize actions; engage stakeholders to help develop a plan; implement, evaluate, and improve strategies; and establish a culture of continuous improvement.

Participating in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) supports the Achieving the Dream (ATD) principals of systemic institutional improvement and use of evidence to improve programs and services. ATD promotes data-driven performance measurement and accountability systems that enable benchmarking of institutional performance. Temple College's strategic plan has committed to fostering student success by increasing student engagement.

CCSSE participation also facilitates the use of data to prioritize actions, provides a resource for implementing, evaluating, and improving strategies, and helps establish a culture of continuous improvement. Analysis of individual survey item responses may suggest focused priorities and additional intervention strategies. Benchmark scores overtime can validate intervention strategies or suggest improvements.

Temple College Snapshot of CCSSE Results



* Benchmark relates to Achieving the Dream Strategies of Zero Week and Continuous Orientation



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Continuous Orientation Team Hard at Work

Dr. Mark Smith, Vice President of Educational Services and Continuous Orientation Strategy Team Leader offers the following report on the recent work of the team:

As the Continuous Orientation strategy team began a discussion about refining a sustainability plan for this strategy, it became clear the team would have to go back and review all sessions for content accuracy. The very first session, Student Handbook/Time Management had a fair number of slides that either needed to be updated or deleted due to revisions in the 2011-2012 Student Handbook. The team agreed that we needed to review all existing orientation sessions to find a way to generalize the presentations with the aim of extending the useful life of the presentations before they had to be modified.

Another concern that arose was the instructors conducting the orientations in a traditional face-to-face setting had to deactivate the audio and automatic slide sequencing features so they could present the material at custom pace in class. This concern prompted the group to realize that we would need to look at developing each orientation session in two separate formats. A format with no audio and no automatic slide sequencing so faculty could sequence through the slides as they presented the material in class and a second format that would include audio and automatic slide sequencing for use in online classes and for use in the College's online New-comer Orientation website.

Another Zero Week Under Our Belts

Temple College held Zero Week for Fall 2011 the week of August 22-26. The calendar was filled with opportunities for both students and faculty. Adrian Sora, Director of Recruitment and Retention, credited the success of Zero-Week to the hard-work and dedication of the strategy team and the faculty and staff facilitators. "There were lots of positive comments and a few areas for improvement but overall I think we accomplished the goal of helping students get prepared for the first week of classes". Carey Rose, Division Director of Student and Enrollment Services, reported that attendance at events was up from last fall by about 150 students.



The strategy team has scheduled an evaluation meeting in September to review feedback, brainstorm possible improvements, and begin planning subsequent semesters.



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