

South Texas College
Board of Trustees
Education and Workforce Development Committee
Ann Richards Administration Building, Board Room
Pecan Campus
Thursday, January 15, 2015
@ 3:30 p.m.
McAllen, Texas

AGENDA

“At anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.071(2) to confer with its legal counsel on any subject matter on this agenda in which the duty of the attorney to the Board of Trustees under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. Further, at anytime during the course of this meeting, the Board of Trustees may retire to Executive Session to deliberate on any subject slated for discussion at this meeting, as may be permitted under one or more of the exceptions to the Open Meetings Act set forth in Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter D of the Texas Government Code.”

- I. Approval of Minutes for Thursday, December 11, 2014 Committee Meeting..... 1 - 4
- II. Presentation on UTeach: *Preparing Math & Science Majors to Become Educators* 5 - 11
- III. Report on the December 2014 Graduation 12 - 19

Approval of Minutes for December 11th, 2014 Committee Meeting

The Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meeting of December 11th, 2014 are presented for Committee approval.

**South Texas College
Board of Trustees
Education and Workforce Development Committee
Ann Richards Administration Building, Board Room
Pecan Campus
Thursday, December 11, 2014
@ 3:30 p.m.
McAllen, Texas**

MINUTES

The Education and Workforce Development Committee Meeting was held on Thursday, December 11, 2014 in the Ann Richards Administration Building Board Room at the Pecan Campus in McAllen, Texas. The meeting commenced at 3:30 p.m. with Mrs. Graciela Farias presiding.

Members present: Mrs. Graciela Farias, Dr. Alejo Salinas, Jr., and Mr. Gary Gurwitz

Other Trustees present: Mr. Paul R. Rodriguez

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Shirley A. Reed, Dr. Anahid Petrosian, Dr. Ali Esmaeili, Mr. Nick Gonzalez, Ms. Sofia Pena, Mr. Mario Morin, and Mr. Andrew Fish.

Approval of Minutes for November 13th, 2014 Committee Meeting

Upon a motion by Mr. Gary Gurwitz and a second by Dr. Alejo Salinas, Jr., the Minutes for the Education and Workforce Development Committee meeting of November 13th, 2014 were approved as written. The motion carried.

Presentation on Student Success at Early College High Schools

Ms. Sofia Peña, Director of Early College High Schools, presented on the success of students at Early College High Schools at South Texas College partner campuses throughout Hidalgo and Starr Counties. Mr. Nick Gonzalez, Administrator for High School Programs and Services, joined the discussion.

Ms. Pena provided a brief background on the mission and development of Early College High Schools and South Texas College's partnerships with area school districts. Texas was a leader nation-wide, and South Texas College leads the state of Texas with 26 out of 108 Early College partnerships statewide.

Early College High Schools developed to provide a transition from secondary to higher education, and to give students a chance to earn up to an Associate Degree while completing the requirements for a high school diploma.

Ms. Peña reviewed the growth of the ECHS programs and enrollment, and the success of students graduating from these programs, many times with associate degrees and/or certificates from South Texas College – all earned and awarded tuition-free.

She also discussed the steps that South Texas College takes in collaboration with school district partners to maintain the strong program quality, student support, and faculty performance that ultimately translate into student success.

Ms. Peña shared projections for the future enrollment and graduations, and details on how South Texas College planned to continue building on the successful Early College High School programs with partner ISDs, and how the College serves as a model for other institutions across the state and the nation as they develop their own programs.

This item was for the Committee's information and feedback to staff, and no action was requested.

Presentation on the New Mathways Project

Dr. Ali Esmaeili, Dean of Math, Science, Bachelor Programs, and University Relations and Mario Morin, New Mathways Project Lead and Math Faculty, provided a presentation on the New Mathways Project.

The New Mathways Project (NMP) was a national initiative with the goal of reforming developmental mathematics education for Texas students. South Texas College worked with the Charles A. Dana Center at UT-Austin, and was a statewide leader in developing and implementing successful strategies to help students achieve necessary competencies to complete college-level math.

NMP looks at three pathways to accelerate student achievement of necessary math skills:

1. Statistical Reasoning
2. Quantitative Reasoning
3. STEM-Prep (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

During the first semester, in the NMP model, students enroll in two courses. *Foundations for Mathematical Reasoning*, which is a developmental math course that helps students develop foundational skills to properly learn college-level course material, and *Frameworks for Mathematics and Collegiate Learning*, a course that helps students acquire the strategies and drive needed to succeed

Students would then be able to enroll in Academic Math courses aligned to their academic and career goals, as needed. This process allowed students on non-STEM pathways to complete developmental requirements and earn credits to satisfy core-curriculum math in a single year.

South Texas College was one of nine co-development partners, and served as a mentor to Coastal Bend Community College.

Fall 2013 was South Texas College's pilot semester for the project, and implementation officially began in late July 2013 when course materials were first released to the co-development partners. With only one month of marketing and recruiting, 29 students took the course, in three separate section offerings at two campuses. In Fall 2014, 54 students were placed in four sections, and there were seven sections offered for Spring 2015.

Dr. Esmaeili and Mr. Morin provided additional insight into associated project activities and looked at the next steps for the New Mathways Project. They also responded to questions from the Committee. They offered to return once the Fall 2014 semester finished and student performance data was ready for presentation to the Committee.

This item was for the Committee's information and feedback to staff, and no action was requested.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Education Workforce Development Committee Meeting of the South Texas College Board of Trustees adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct minutes of the December 11, 2014 Education and Workforce Development Committee of the South Texas College Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Graciela Farias
Chair

Presentation on UTeach: *Preparing Math & Science Majors to Become Educators*

Dr. Ali Esmaeili, Dean of Math, Science, Bachelor Programs, and University Relations will introduce Dr. Enriqueta Cortez, Department Chair for Physical Sciences. Dr. Cortez will provide a presentation on the UTeach program, a partnership with UTPA focused on preparing majors from Math & Science fields for careers in Math & Science Education.

Math and Science teachers are in high demand in the Rio Grande Valley, and across the state and the nation. To address the need for qualified teachers, the University of Texas at Austin created UTeach in 1997. It has since expanded to over 30 universities in 16 states. According to the UTeach Institute, 80% of UTeach graduates who enter the teaching profession continue within the profession for at least five years. 32% of these graduates are from underrepresented Hispanic and African American populations.

This program is designed to streamline the process for students to earn a Bachelor of Science degree with a secondary teacher certification (Certified Texas Educator). While completing the program, students will also gain teaching experience with public schools, will find mentorships, and will qualify for scholarships and paid internships, leading to possible job offers locally, statewide, or even nationally upon graduation.

Through partnership with UTPA, which will continue with UTRGV, students can take the first two courses of the UTeach program at South Texas College:

UTCH 1101: Inquiry Approaches to Teaching
UTCH 1102: Inquiry-Based Lesson Design

These courses will be taught by UTPA Masters Teachers, available to South Texas College through the grant-funded partnership with UTPA (and to be continued with UTRGV). These Masters Teachers will be assisted by Math and Science Student Success Specialists, who will provide additional support to UTeach students and will visit Math and Science courses to recruit STEM majors interested in a career in STEM education.

Tuition for these first two courses is reimbursed upon completion, and these students are able to transfer to UTPA/UTRGV to complete the UTeach program as part of the baccalaureate degree program.

UTRGV's UTeach Program is projected to become the 2nd largest in the nation, and will offer great benefit to South Texas College STEM graduates pursuing a career in secondary education. South Texas College will track the success of its students through their transition to UTPA/UTRGV through coordination with a UTRGV project evaluator.

This item is for the Committee's information and feedback to staff, and no action is requested.



UTeach



*Preparing Math & Science Majors to
Become Educators*

Presentation for
Education & Workforce Development Committee
January 15, 2015



Outline

- » **What is UTeach?**
 - > **Design**
 - > **STC-UTPA Partnership**
 - > **Curriculum**
 - > **Benefits**
 - > **UTeach at STC**
 - > **Next Steps**



What is UTeach?

- » UTeach is designed to address the **critical need** for highly qualified math and science teachers in the Rio Grande Valley, across the state, and the nation.
- » The program was established at the **University of Texas at Austin in 1997.**
- » It has expanded to over **30 universities in 16 states.**



UTeach Design

- » The UTeach pathway allows for **graduation in 4 years with a B.S. degree** in science or math and **secondary teacher certification.**
- » **UTeach Curriculum:**
 - > Total Course Hours: 30
 - > Professional Development Course Hours: 18
 - > Field Experience Hours: 320



UTeach Curriculum

Specially Designed Content Courses

Functions & Modeling

Research Methods

Perspectives on Science & Math

Reading in Content Areas

UTeach Courses

UTCH 1101
Inquiry Approaches
To Teaching
Step 1

UTCH 1102
Inquiry-Based
Lesson Design
Step 2

Education Sequence

Knowing & Learning

Classroom Interactions

Project-Based Instruction

Apprentice Teaching



STC-UTPA Partnership

- » UTPA received a **\$1.5 million grant** in 2012 to bring the program to south Texas
- » The **first two courses** for the UTeach program **are offered at STC** (Step 1 & 2)



STC-UTPA Partnership

- » STC provides **office space, classroom space, storage space, and a student workroom**
- » Students who **transfer to UTPA** are able to continue with the UTeach program as they complete their degree



Benefits to Students

- » Earn a **STEM degree with Teacher Certification** in 4 years
- » **Tuition is reimbursed** for the first two courses completed
- » Obtain **valuable teaching experience** with dedicated **master teachers** as mentors

Field Experiences by STC students at McAllen ISD, Spring 2014



Benefits to Students

- » **Field experiences** in local public schools
- » Receive **individual support and mentoring** from faculty and mentor teachers
- » Qualify for **scholarships and paid internships**
- » Local, state, and nationwide **job offers** after graduation

McAllen ISD Mentor Teachers
Meeting with STC Students,
February 2014



UTeach at STC

- » **UTCH 1101: *Inquiry Approaches to Teaching*** was first offered at STC during **Spring 2014** with **38 students** enrolled
 - > 26 Students enrolled during Fall 2014
- » **UTCH 1102: *Inquiry-Based Lesson Design*** was first offered at **STC Fall 2014** with **7 students** enrolled



UTeach at STC

- » **Goal:** 42 students to graduate from the program at UTPA by the end of the grant period (*Spring 2016*)
- » Students are recruited by UTPA Master Teachers, Math/Science Faculty, and other UTeach Students. The students must have declared STEM majors.



Next Steps

- » UTRGV's UTeach Program is projected to become the **2nd largest in the nation.**
- » UTRGV will seek to raise funds to continue the UTeach program after the grant period ends.



Report on the December 2014 Graduation

Mr. Matthew Hebbard, Dean of Enrollment Services and Registrar, will deliver the December 2014 Graduation Report.

On Sunday, December 14, 2014 792 South Texas College students participated in the College's first December Commencement Ceremony, out of 1556 eligible graduates.

Mr. Hebbard will provide graduation and commencement participation statistics by division and by degree, as well as a focused view at the top ten majors of graduating students.

This commencement ceremony was necessary due to the increasing number of South Texas College graduates each year. This December Commencement allowed the College to recognize students who complete their programs in a fall semester and the College is preparing for the logistics of continued December Commencement ceremonies as required.

This item is for the Committee's information and feedback to staff, and no action is requested.



SOUTH TEXAS
COLLEGE

South Texas College
Commencement Ceremony
December 2014

Identification of Eligible Graduates



Welcome to MarchingOrder.

We offer schools the best graduation ceremonies they've ever had. Using MarchingOrder saves time, money, and headaches.

>> [Click to learn more.](#) <<

[Already a customer?](#)



Marching Order Service

- Graduate RSVP to confirm attendance
- Personalized graduate message to family
- Name of graduate and degree on screen
- Barcode check-in for faster line-up
- Barcode scan on ramp and queue of names



Communication Plan



- Update institution website:
www.southtexascollege.edu/graduation/
- Emails and letters to graduates
- Plasma and social media announcements
- List of graduates to Program Chairs
- Faculty/staff email announcement

Planning and Preparation

- Regalia ordered and delivered to Admissions
- Committee meetings and site visits
- Team responsibilities and checklist
- Ceremony day began at 6am on site





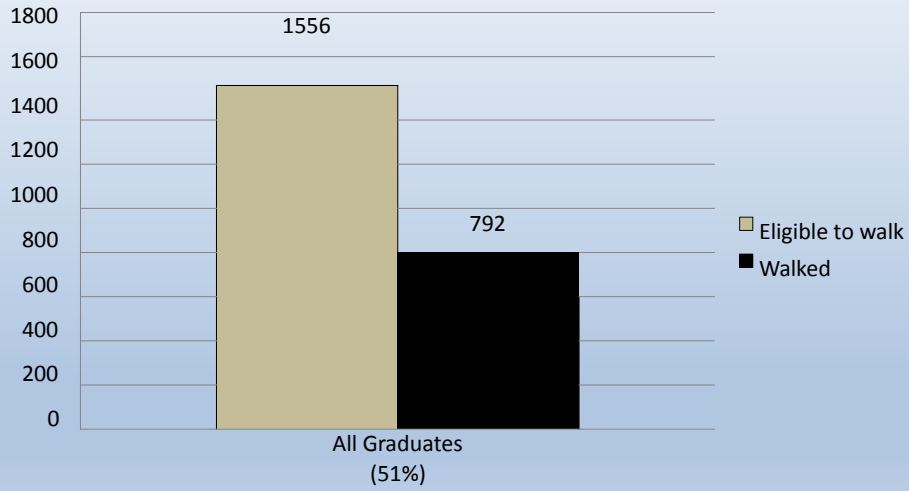
Candidate Totals by Degree and Division

DEGREE	DIVISION	TOTAL
Associate	Business & Technology	153
	Liberal Arts/Social Sci.	631
	Math & Sciences	68
	Nursing & Allied Health	156
*TOTAL Associate		1008
Bachelor	Bachelor Program	89
*TOTAL Bachelor		89
Certificate	Business & Technology	280
	Nursing & Allied Health	152
	Social Sciences	27
*TOTAL Certificate		459
TOTAL		1,556

Data as of Day of Ceremony 12/13/14

Attendance Rate For All Graduates

The graph below shows the attendance rate for all graduates.

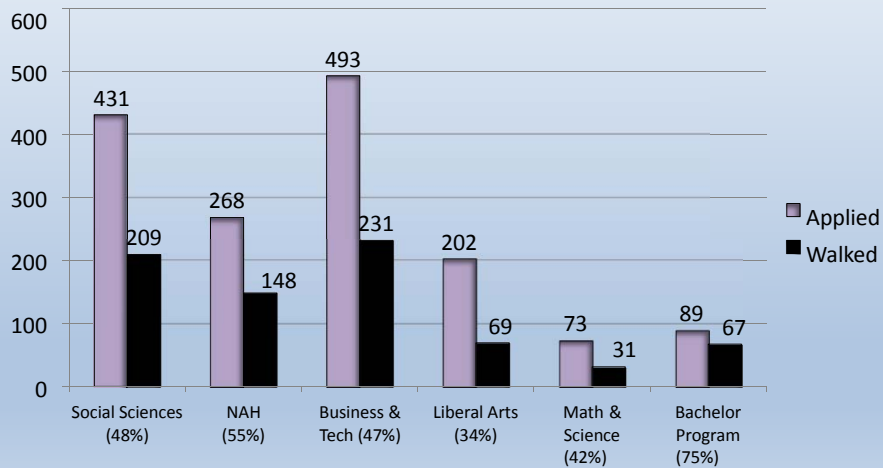


*Blank cards issued are not counted in Walked total

Attendance Rate by Division

The graph below gives the attendance rate by College. This is based on the total number of students that applied to graduate (noted above each column).

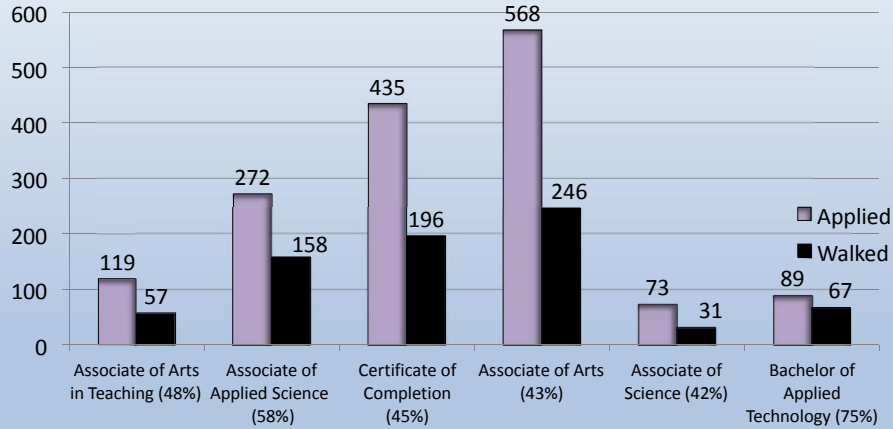
*Blank Cards not included in totals.



Attendance Rate by Degree

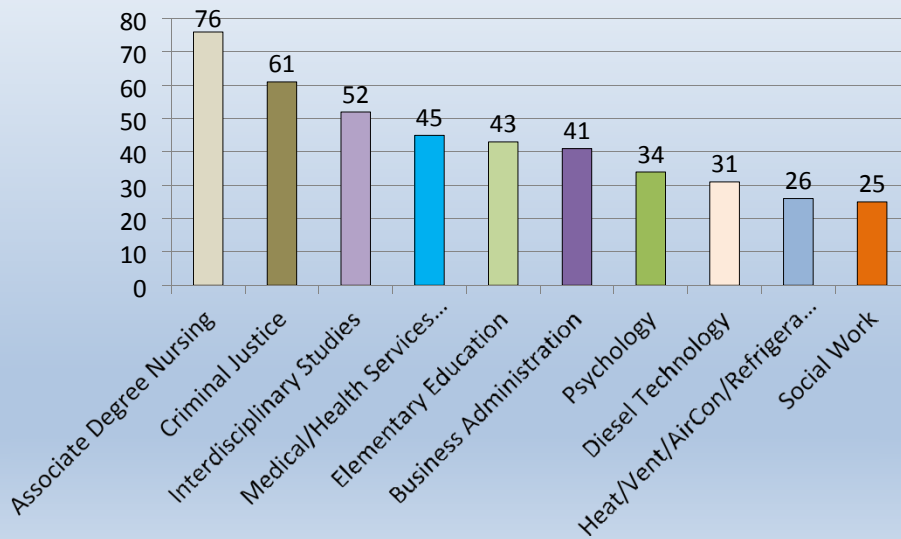
The graph below gives the attendance rate by College. This is based on the total number of students that applied to graduate (noted above each column).

*Blank Cards not included in totals.



Number of Graduate Attendees by Major

The graph below gives the number of students who walked at his/her ceremony, separated by program. (Top 10 majors by student attendance)



Lessons Learned

- Tickets for Guests/Family Members
- Convention Center vs. State Farm Arena
- LED screens enhanced video quality
- Possibility of August Commencement Ceremony
- Identify number of Spring graduates by Census date



May 2015 Commencement Ceremony

Friday May 15th and Saturday May 16th
State Farm Arena, Hidalgo, TX

