Susan E. Brown
Assistant Commissioner for Planning and Accountability

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.

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

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

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

‣ **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
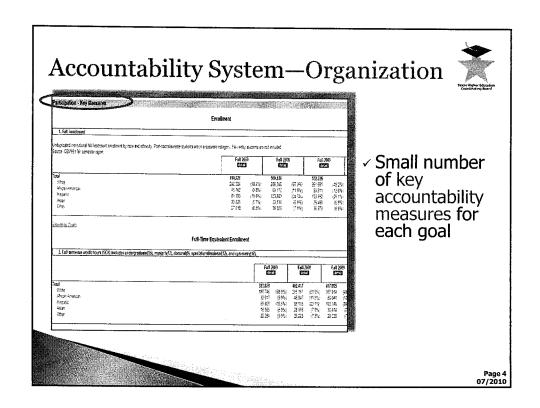 ✓ Community colleges determined measures and reporting groups

‣ **October 2004**
  ✓ Accountability System adopted by THECB

‣ **December 2004**
  ✓ First Accountability Report completed

Accountability System—Organization

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

- ✓ 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 exemplify higher education institutions' missions. The System is modeled on the state's higher education plan, Closing the Gaps by 2015. Its major focus is on the four Closing the Gaps target areas of participation, success, excellence and research.

- FY 2010 Scheduled Accountability Peer Group Meetings (PDF)

Closing the Gaps

Participation

By 2015, close the gaps in participation rates across Texas to add 630,000 more students

- Universities
- Health-Related Institutions
- Texas State Technical Colleges and Lamar State Colleges
- Community Colleges
- Closing the Gaps Institutional Targets (PDF) (XLS)

Success

By 2015, award 210,000 undergraduate degrees, certificates and other identifiable student successes from high quality programs

- Universities
- Health-Related Institutions
- Texas State Technical Colleges and Lamar State Colleges
- Community Colleges
- Closing the Gaps Institutional Targets (PDF) (XLS)

Excellence

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

Interactive access to data

Use this tool to customize data by time periods, to select componen
and to specify institutional choices. Select an institution type from th
Then press "Go." HTML and Excel outputs are available.

Type: Universities

Research

By 2015, increase the level of federal science and engineering and
to 6.5 percent of obligations to higher education institutions across t

- Universities
- Health-Related Institutions
- Closing the Gaps Institutional Targets (PDF) (XLS)
- Intellectual Property Policies

Institutional Efficiency and Effectiveness

- Universities
- Health-Related Institutions
- Texas State Technical Colleges and Lamar State Colleges
- Community Colleges

Patient Care

- Health-Related Institutions

Accountability System—Organization

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Participation - Key Measures

Enrollment

1. Fall headcount

Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment

2. Fall semester credit hours (SCH) includes undergraduate(15), master's(12), doctoral(9), special professional(12), and optometry(17).

- ✓ 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

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Accountability System—Organization

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

Accountability System—Organization

- ✓ Institutions are grouped to facilitate "like" comparisons.
- ✓ Groups include: Research, Emerging Research, Doctoral, Comprehensive, and Master's
- ✓ Groupings are <u>not</u> permanent or prescriptive
- ✓ Reviewed <u>every two years</u> 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

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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

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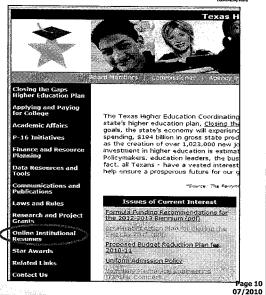
Transfer students
- ✓ IPEDS does not accurately capture transfer students in graduation rates.
- ✓ Texas captures all students that entered as full-time and transferred to any institution in the state of Texas.
- ✓ Students that enter as part-time students and transfer are captured in total degree counts.

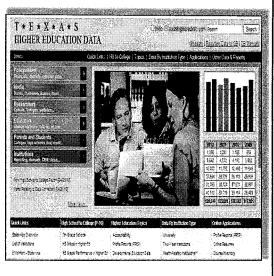# Efforts have been made to make accountability data more relevant to users

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

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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.

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