

3.4.2

Educational Programs: All:Continuing education/service programs

The institution's continuing education, outreach, and service programs are consistent with the institution's mission.

Judgment

Compliant Non-Compliant Not Applicable

Narrative

Note: Text for all linked documents below can be increased/decreased for ease of reading by pressing your keyboard's Ctrl key while rotating the mouse wheel.

Angelo State University's continuing education, outreach, and service programs are designed to support student learning and community engagement by connecting ASU students, faculty, and staff with local, regional, national, and global communities. The institutional commitment to community engagement supports the institutional mission (ASU mission statement) and is an integral part of the ASU strategic plan (Vision 2020 Master Goal 6).

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SERVICE UNITS

ASU's continuing education and service programs are coordinated through several community-focused units, as summarized below.

Center for International Studies

The Center for International Studies offers several programs to advance international learning, scholarship, respect and leadership (Center for International Studies mission). Programs include the English Language Learners' Institute, a non-credit program to help non-native English speakers develop English language competence; the International Student Host Family Program, which matches international students with local families who help the students feel welcome and settle into their new lives in the United States; and passport services. The center also sponsors and coordinates activities during International Education Week. The center's community engagement initiatives support Master Goal 6 of the ASU strategic plan (Vision 2020; see especially Master Goal 6, Objective 1(2) and Objective 2(4)).

Office of Extended Studies

The ASU Office of Extended Studies has provided lifelong professional, vocational, personal, and workforce-development educational opportunities to the citizens of West Texas for many years (ASU OP 04.02, Extended Studies Activities). In spring 2012, in light of changes in the economy and programs offered at the local community college, ASU decided to revisit the role of its Extended Studies program. Classes were offered through the spring 2012 (Office of Extended Studies Spring 2012 Class Schedule). Currently, a review is being conducted to decide how ASU will reframe its Extended Studies program. As of this writing, the Office of Extended Studies website is being updated to reflect the program's status as under review.

Until mid-spring 2012, the Office of Extended Studies managed and operated the university's Testing Center, which provides a wide range of testing services to university faculty and students and West Texas residents. Tests available in the center include the ACT, GRE, and LSAT, among others. To provide continuous services, the Testing Center moved directly under the supervision of the vice provost when the review of the Extended Studies program began.

Center for Community Wellness, Engagement, and Development

ASU's Center for Community Wellness, Engagement, and Development (WED) is the outreach center of the College of Health and Human Services. The mission of WED is to promote the highest quality of life in communities served by ASU students, faculty, and staff. The center's goal is to enhance the efforts of other agencies and to facilitate the development of new programs, initiatives, and processes to serve unmet community needs. The WED Center is an umbrella for the following initiatives:

- **Family, Adolescent, and Child Engagement Services (FACES)**—FACES is the administrative arm of the ASU Nursing Department's San Jacinto School-Based Clinic and Family Wellness Center. The clinic's mission is to promote optimal health for children and youth and thereby promote academic success by facilitating children's learning potential and personal wellbeing. The clinic provides immunizations, school physicals, and minor-illness treatment to adolescents and children from birth to 18 years. The clinic also serves as a venue for ASU nursing students to gain important clinical training for their nursing education. The outreach initiatives of the San Jacinto clinic support Master Goal #6 of the ASU strategic plan (Vision 2020; see especially Master Goal 6, Objective 3(2)).
- **Caregiver Research Institute**—The ASU Caregiver Research Institute serves older adults, frail elders, caregivers, and all people providing care to others. Services include education on developing individualized plans of care for the caregivers, stress reduction methods, and identifying barriers that can cause caregiver burden. The institute also serves as a resource and information center.
- **Community Development Initiatives**—Community Development Initiatives (CDI) organizes and applies ASU student and faculty talents to innovative projects that have the potential to positively impact community development. Its mission is to link the university with the greater community to provide services to assist community organizations in such areas as demographic research, evaluation, and assessment (Community Development Initiatives: Current Projects, June 2012). The CDI began in 2007, growing out of discussions among faculty members over two important topics: 1) ways ASU could bring faculty and students together into meaningful collaborative research and learning projects and 2) ways to better link faculty and student efforts to the real world.
- **Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health**—The Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health develops educational and outreach programs that will positively influence the health of women and their families in the Concho Valley. The institute also supports research that focuses on disease prevention and treatments that meet the differing health needs of women. ASU, in affiliation with the institute, established a regional campus office in San Angelo in October 2010 to grow women's health research, education, and community outreach in the region. WED's community outreach

initiatives support Master Goal #6 of the ASU strategic plan (Vision 2020; see especially Master Goal 6, Objective 2(1) and Objective 3(2–4)).

Small Business Development Center

The slogan of ASU's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is "helping grow the Concho Valley economy, one business at a time." Its mission is to help small businesses start, grow, and prosper by providing entrepreneurs with the education, information, and tools necessary to build successful businesses. The SBDC accomplishes these goals through counseling, technical assistance, training seminars and workshops, advocacy, research studies, resource information, and coordination with the U.S. Small Business Administration and other community business support services. The SBDC employs paid ASU graduate students in its International Trade office and unpaid undergraduate interns. The center's community outreach initiatives support Master Goal #6 of the ASU strategic plan (Vision 2020; see especially Master Goal 6, Objective 2(3) and Objective 3(1)).

EVALUATION OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND SERVICE PROGRAMS

Each of the units described above engages in a systematic annual assessment process to ensure ongoing alignment with the institutional mission and to promote continuous quality improvement, as described in Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.5, Institutional effectiveness: community/public service.