This is Libby Spradlin with the Office of Planning and Assessment, and the purpose of this presentation is to give a brief overview of non-academic assessment and who is included in its reporting.

Non-academic assessment information is reported by administrative support service units and academic and student support service units for the purpose of demonstrating institutional effectiveness.

SACSCOC Comprehensive Standards 3.3.1.2 and 3.3.1.3 state that these units are defined as director-led entities across the Texas Tech campus that provide administrative and educational support services. These are units whose primary responsibility is to serve the Texas Tech community as a whole. While this definition could effectively include every administrative unit across campus as each department makes its own unique contribution to the institutional mission, the focus is placed on units that possess a student-oriented purpose. Examples include Hospitality Services, the Student Counseling Center, Academic Testing Services, Student Business Services, the Library, and University Advising. As stated in SACSCOC Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1, the institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of improvement based on analysis of the results in areas that provide administrative and educational support.

The objective for non-academic assessment is to ensure that components of the institution which have a direct or indirect impact on student learning are aligned with the student-learning focus of the institution. These non-academic units are identified by the institution and must provide annual operational outcomes that are specific to their individual unit’s goals and processes. Outcome-based assessment information is also provided to show outcomes are being effectively measured and thresholds are being achieved. Results and areas of improvement are then identified through this process along with the means to implement changes for improvement. The non-academic assessment process is one of continuous improvement and the “closing the loop” approach provides evidence that assessment processes are in place come accreditation review time.

If you have any questions regarding non-academic assessment, please myself, Libby Spradlin, at libby.spradlin@ttu.edu or contact our office at 742-1505.