Tarleton State University - Project Graduation Initiative

Organizational Structure/Committee Membership
- This initiative consists of 25 individuals who comprise five teams. Each of these teams is comprised of a combination of five members who serve in various roles on campus (i.e. - faculty senator, senior faculty member, department head, dean, and faculty fellow). Each team selects a member to serve as team leader for each of the three phases of the initiative.

Committee Charge
- As a part of the 2010-2011 academic year, associated institutional priorities and legislative and System impetus on retention and student success, the President charged the Provost for forming a group comprised solely of faculty and academic leadership, to review, discuss and formulate recommendations for academic and faculty-led classroom initiatives that would impact student graduation rates.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan (Strategic Goals)
The project graduation initiative addresses each of the university’s four strategic goals:
   A. Extend Our Reach
   B. Encourage Leadership, Service and Student Success
   C. Expand Our Horizon
   D. Excel in Scholarship, Teaching, and Learning

Project Timeline
- Phase I (November 2011) - IDEA GENERATION: Each of the five groups were responsible for generating ideas that were within our control as faculty through our classroom experiences and that were at the junction of the faculty-student interface. Each group’s ideas (25+ per group) were focused on classroom, faculty-driven, and academic activities (classroom experiences, classroom practices, faculty sponsorship of student organizations, faculty mentoring, faculty advising, how scholarships are awarded, research partnerships).

- Phase II (Spring 2012) - IMPACT/COST MATRIX AND PRIORITIZATION: Each of the five teams will review and place each of their ideas on an impact/cost matrix. Then, the teams will prioritize these items within certain quadrants on the matrix (high cost/low benefit, high cost/high benefit, low cost/low benefit, and low cost, high benefit).

- Phase III (Spring 2012) - IDENTIFICATION OF CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS: Each of the groups will review the high priority (impact) items and identify challenges and barriers to implementation.