God Bless the Child: Creative Solutions to Budgetary Challenges

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Like many publics, UT Arlington is going private: 21% state funded and declining
Doing more with less--AKA creative budgeting--can only take you so far
Like other units, OGS has become more entrepreneurial
OGS has helped increase revenue to advance institutional strategic goals for graduate education:
increase enrollment, improve academic success, retention, and graduation, significantly improve doctoral education

UT Arlington, a Carnegie Research University-High Activity institution
80 bachelor’s programs, 74 master’s programs, 30 doctoral programs
F12 Enrollment: 33,267 total, 25,796 UG, 7471 graduate
$70 million in external research and sponsored program expenditures.
Robust UG and graduate growth in last five years: roughly 25,000 total in 2007
UTA OGS: staff of 47 (headcount) and budget of $5,500,000
• At many institutions, OFA is separate from OGS and has UG-centered focus
• But graduate students, especially master’s students, pay tuition too
• We’ve increased Need-based Graduate Student Aid: $1M to $3M, mostly master’s, AY 06-07 to AY 10-11
• History: $3M in, $1M out in terms of tuition set asides
• Politics: Who reports to whom?
• Need to learn about need-based state and federal financial aid and its history at one’s institution
• Principle of Parity
• Trust but verify
• OGS advocacy for entrepreneurial business models (AKA incentives) for graduate programming that increase enrollment:
  - Joint MS programs with Asian universities
  - Executive master’s programs
  - UTA-FW programs

• OGS advocacy along with Provost’s Office and CDE for distance education
  - UT Arlington has robust DE program with 17% of students fully online, 33% taking online courses
  - OGS helps take complete programs online, addresses academic problems arising from DE, monitors retention and completion
  - Bb Analytics and retention
  - Increased enrollment provides revenue to OGS

• Doctoral student tuition modeling: Reduce PhD tuition which we’re paying much more of and touch more students
Why Would We Work With You?

- **OGS Proposal Development Team** helps secure and implement grants for graduate student support and innovative education practices: directly impacts PhD education and 200 PhDs goal.
- Doesn’t happen overnight: play the long game
- OGS coordinates the proposal process and institutional commitment and helps write the proposal
- OGS recruiting, retention, academic success programming included proposal: DVD, orientations, EDGE, RCR, IENGAGE Mentoring, dissertation fellowships
- Develop overall vision: recruiting, funding, retaining, and graduating minority US PhD students, especially in STEM
- Use grants to drive improving graduate education on campus

- **$5 M Full Partnership Grants Won Since 2009:**
  - ~$3M in DE GAANN grants: BE, CSE, Math, Physics
  - ~$229K as part of $4M UT System LSAMP Alliance (NSF)
  - ~$1M LSAMP Bridge to Doctorate (NSF)
  - $150K AGEP Planning Grant
  - **$8-$9 M in Full Partnership Grants Submitted:**
• The privatization of American public universities continues apace

• State and federal economic trends suggest the this pace will only accelerate

• Each Office of Graduate Studies is different, but all need to explore entrepreneurial ways to increase revenue