

## PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

### External factors

1. The impact of the anti-affirmative action movement, including the Hopwood decision, will result in more minorities both African American and Hispanic students enrolling at Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
2. New State of Texas regulatory changes regarding TASP will not affect enrollment.
3. State of Texas funding for higher education will remain constant over the next five years.
4. Accountability requirements at both the federal and state levels will continue to increase, resulting in increased reporting of student performances, outcomes, and financial reporting.
5. The availability of research funds from external sources should remain constant, while faculty efforts to attract such funding will increase.
6. The Houston economy is diverse. Although it continues to be fueled by the exploration and production of energy, the largest growth has been in the areas of health care services, electronics, and engineering technologies.
7. Enrollment will be affected by both the local and state economies. Enrollments usually expand when unemployment increases and students prepare or retrain for increased employability. Current economic indicators for the City of Houston show sustained growth in the numbers of jobs, low unemployment rates, and an increase in construction, sales, and services.

8. During the last five years, headcount enrollment at Texas public universities declined by 1.63 %, while public and community technical college enrollment increased by 4.4%. However, over the same period, the number of African-American and Hispanic students at public universities increased by 13.8%.
9. Enrollment in Texas Colleges and Universities is expected to increase by nearly 4% during the period from 2000 to 2005, which represents an average annual increase of <1 %.
10. Anticipated changes in the State of Texas' demographic structure and student age distribution patterns are likely to influence growth at all institutions of higher education.
11. The total population will grow at an average annual rate of 1.3%. Hispanics will continue to be the fastest growing ethnic group; by 2010, they will constitute 34% of the state's population; African Americans will remain constant at 11.6%, while Caucasians will experience a 6% decline, resulting in 51.4% of the state's population.
12. The number of traditional high school graduates in the 15 to 19 year old groups is projected to increase by 12 % from the period 1997 to 2010. This represents an annual average growth of <1 %.

### **Internal factors**

1. Over the next five years, enrollment will increase to 8,000 students by fall 2003, which will require an average annual increase of 5 percent.

2. Full compliance with federal financial aid guidelines will enhance the University's ability to provide comprehensive financial aid services to students. The availability of financial aid is a major factor in a student's decision to enter, return, or continue at the University.
3. Large numbers of first-time entering students, both first-time freshmen and transfers, will require developmental education.
4. Distance education will be a major initiative to reach more students in rural parts of the State, and as a convenience for non-traditional student needs.
5. The University will provide a more conducive learning environment by offering vanguard educational experiences and new campus community housing that will aid in national and international recruitment for graduate and undergraduate students.
6. Increasing retention and progression and graduation rates will be of highest priority.
7. Graduate and professional school enrollment will increase as an unintended benefit from the Hopwood ruling.
8. Accreditation of academic programs will remain a high priority to promote academic excellence and the marketability of TSU'S graduates. Achieving AACSB accreditation for the Jesse H. Jones School of Business is of highest importance.
9. Research opportunities will increase for faculty.
10. Computer technology and training will be upgraded to support more efficiently instruction, research, and administrative applications.
11. Tuition increases over the next five years will keep pace with inflation in order to provide quality programs and services.
12. Texas Southern University will maintain a viable and ethnically diverse faculty.

13. Texas Southern University will maintain a competitive advantage for offering the Phar.D, the Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology, Master of Professional Accountancy, Master of Science in Transportation and Planning, and the Bachelor of Science in Airway Science as stipulated in the Texas Plan.
14. Texas Southern University will continue its commitment to Historically Underutilized Businesses in its awarding of contracts.
15. Assessment of programs and service satisfaction will be ongoing, and the results of such assessment will lead to improvements in service delivery.
16. Priorities for resource allocations will reflect planning priorities.
17. Attainment of legislative benchmarks for output, efficiency, and explanatory measures will be of highest priority.
18. Management priorities over the next five years will result in systematic planning, evaluation, and budgeting, which will increase efficiency of resource allocations, improve communications, and accountability for achievement of all institutional goals and objectives.
19. The University's development and implementation of innovative strategies for service delivery will keep pace with local and regional competition for students.