



# Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society

College Project Meeting | January 22, 2016

*These notes summarize the recommendations that the Phi Theta Kappa officer team discussed with College President Dr. Bill Scroggins on Friday, Jan. 22, 2016.*

## Meeting Summary

The objectives for The Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) college project were to understand the factors that either encourage or discourage students from enrolling in evening courses. In order to do this PTK conducted a campus-wide student survey that was reviewed by the Office of Research & Institutional Effectiveness. More than 1,300 students took the survey. PTK invited Dr. Scroggins to a meeting in which officers explained their findings.

After analyzing the data PTK found that the top three reasons that students are unhappy with or do not enroll in evening courses are, 1) there are no places to eat and socialize, 2) academic counseling services are not available, and 3) the majority of transferable/general education courses are offered during the daytime hours. Based on this information and the additional comments by students who took the survey PTK came to the conclusion that 1) food services should remain open until 9:30 p.m., 2) an academic counselor should be stationed at the campus café during evening hours for drop-ins, and 3) the number of transferable/general education courses offered in the evening should be increased.

PTK also found that 82% of those who took the survey said they were interested in an evening cohort experience. Due to a large interest in cohorts (aka learning communities), PTK recommended the creation of evening cohorts for the future. Another concern of many of the respondents was safety in terms of lighting and feeling alone on campus during the evening hours. Some possible solutions and recommendations discussed were better lighting on campus, stronger visibility of public safety officers, and the coordination of evening courses in one building or section of the campus rather than throughout the 400 acres of campus. After a lengthy discussion the college president indicated that he would use PTK's findings to improve services for evening students.

Survey created by Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society (Alpha Omega Alpha Chapter) in consultation with Dr. Maryann Tolano-Leveque Director, Honors Program/PTK Advisor and Barbara McNeice-Stellard, Director, Research & Institutional Effectiveness Office; In partnership with Bob Hughes & Rick Nguyen in the Information Technology Office.