The University of Texas System Compact Process

Board of Regents' Meeting
November 4, 2004

What Is a Compact?

A succinct written agreement between the Chancellor and a president that summarizes an institution's major goals and priorities, strategic directions, tactics, measurable outcomes, and critical issues for an 18 to 24 month period.

Why Use Compacts?

Contrast with strategic plans:

- Shorter term

- Emphasize alignment to broad campus and system goals

- Process is interactive – results from discussions and agreements about reciprocal obligations between institution and campus

- Emphasize specific mechanisms to achieve priorities – more tactical, less aspirational

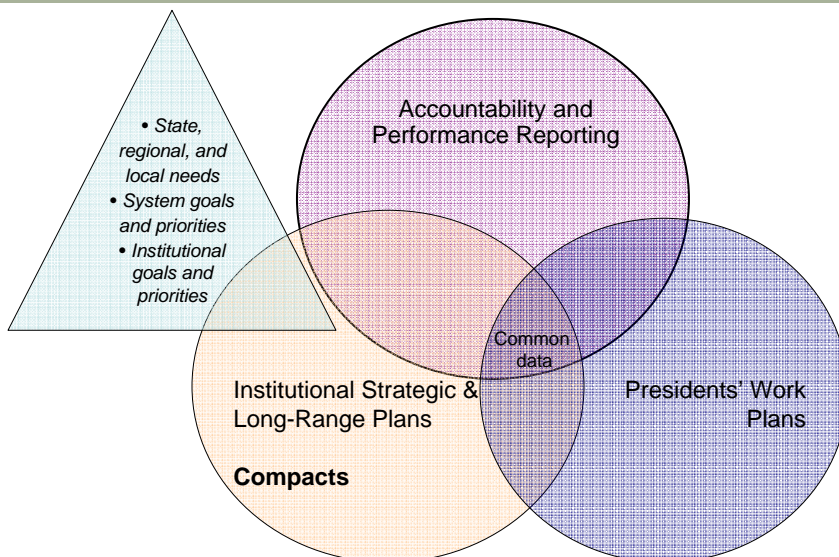- Articulate specific, measurable outcomes

- Update annually

Uses of Compacts

- Tactical documents: provide a specific and operational view of an institution's key activities over the period of one to two years.

- Management tools: provide a context for review of academic program proposals, capital requests, and other opportunities an institution may encounter alone or jointly.

- Communication tools: collect information in one place, and shows the relationship among all key goals and issues.

U. T. System Planning Context

- State, regional, and local needs
- System goals and priorities
- Institutional goals and priorities

Accountability and Performance Reporting

Institutional Strategic & Long-Range Plans

Compacts

Common data

Presidents' Work Plans

What Does a Compact Contain?

1. Institution mission
2. Major short-term and ongoing priorities and initiatives, and measures of progress
3. Future initiatives of high strategic importance
4. Impact of initiatives
5. Connections to institutional, System, and State priorities
6. Compact development and consultation process
7. System contributions
8. Budget and key statistical information

Examples of Compact Measures: Academic Institutions

UT Arlington

Priority:	**Excellence Initiative**
Objective:	Enhance UTA's academic profile, overall reputation, research
Strategy:	Invest in faculty – new hires, Academy of Distinguished Scholars
Measures:	Increase from 2004 to 2006 in # research proposals per faculty, and in research expenditures

UT El Paso

Priority:	**Enrollment management**
Objective:	Increase 6-year graduation rates
Strategy:	Improve academic advising; create alternative and streamlined degree paths
Measure:	Increase 6-year graduation rate to 50% in 10 years

UT Permian Basin

Priority:	**Growth**
Objective:	Increase enrollment above current 2,130 full-time equivalent students
Strategy:	New degree programs; expand student housing, enhance services
Measure:	Increase semester credit hour enrollment by 5.5% each year

Examples of Compact Measures: Health-Related Institutions

UT Southwestern Medical Center - Dallas

Priority:	**Consolidate hospital operations into patient care mission of university**
Objective:	Ensure future growth and excellence of clinical referral practice
Strategy:	Obtain experienced management; financial consolidation; consolidate information technology systems
Measures:	Positive financial performance of hospitals and national recognition for quality

UT Health Science Center - San Antonio

Priority:	**Enhance Excellence in Education**
Objective:	Establish Center for Effective Teaching and Learning
Strategy:	Provide umbrella support to 5 colleges for curriculum development, teaching skill development
Measures:	Client satisfaction; improved student performance; accreditation results

UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

Priority:	**Increase collaborative research and outreach**
Objective:	Leverage strengths of MDACC faculty to enhance scientific discoveries
Strategy:	Seed funding for new collaborations; improve existing partnerships
Measure:	Number of extramurally-funded research collaborations

Improving the Process

- Streamline and align with institution planning processes and with preparation for U. T. System budget hearings
- Emphasize consultation
- Increase understanding of resources for reciprocity
- Increase consistency in description of specific tactics and measurable outcomes
- Compact updates will be drafted in Spring 2005 and finalized in August.
- For more information, visit:

    http://www.utsystem.edu/news/wag/homepage.htm#compacts