

Abstract

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology Dashboards is a “management tool that succinctly informs its viewers of the current state of affairs, provides information with which the viewer can evaluate performance, and thereby helps decision-makers strategically move the institution”. (AIR Professional File, Number 123, Institutional Dashboards: Navigational Tool for Colleges and Universities, Page 2)

Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology Dashboards consist of data visualization designed to provide constituents and stakeholders with analytical results presented in a graphic, relevant format increasing the efficiency and efficacy of making data driven decisions. The overall publication is comprised of 19 comprehensive, performance-based presentations designed to monitor progress while steering ongoing improvement efforts. Evaluating performance against short and long-range goals gauges our level of attainment, ensures compliance with our mission and values, and holds us accountable for student learning outcomes.

Currently, the dashboards publication consists of one (1) institutional (TSCT) and eighteen (18) individual programs: Architecture (ARCH), Automotive (AUTO), Business (BUAD), Cabinetmaking (CABM), Carpentry (CARP), Computer Aided Drafting (CADT), Computer and Network Systems Administration (CNSA), Construction Electrician (COEL), Collision Repair (CORT), Electronic Engineering (EET), Electrical (ELEC), Graphic Communication and Printing (GRPH), Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVAC), Machine (MACH), Masonry (MASN), Mechanical Engineering (MET), Metals Fabrication and Welding Technology (MFWT), and Plumbing (PLBG). Electro-Mechanical Technology (ELME) and Water and Environmental Technology (WET) dashboards will be released for the first time next year; whereas, Residential Remodeling (RMDL) will be released for the first time in two years from the date of this publication.

As in an automobile, the dashboard is used to monitor engine performance ensuring successful navigation to a predetermined destination. At Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology institutional and program dashboards analyze performance in relation to critical indicators of student success or a lack thereof, while navigating to goal attainment. Part one (I) of the dashboards (prelude) provides the context for the reader, identifies the connections between and among strategies, as well as demonstrates the interrelations of program to institution and vice versa. The latter two sections provide the graphical evidence of our performance in relation to benchmarks and/or targets. Part two (II) contains the overall performance of the institution or program, whereas part three (III) delves into the performance of four (4) distinct subgroups: Stevens' Grant Students, Minority Students, Female Students, and PreMajor Students in a Program of Study (POS).