



MEMORANDUM

Provost, Academic Affairs and Student Services

To: Dr. Christina Ponce
From: Dr. Susan Guzmán-Treviño
Subject: September 2026 Academic Affairs and Student Services Report

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

Brady Kelley - Recruitment and Community Engagement Student Worker

FACULTY and EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:

The 2026 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD)
Excellence Award Recipients:

Elizabeth (Libby) Barton – Instructor – Workforce Medical Careers
Natalie Bland – Registrar/Director Admissions & Records
Daniel Brown – Associate Professor – Government
Jesse Castillo – Department Chair – Polysomnography
Dr. Alexander Corbett – Associate Professor – Music
Chad Cryer – Assistant Professor – Biology and 2025 Barnhart Award Winner
Dr. Jason Locklin – Dean – Natural Sciences
Javier Ruiz – Program Manager – Career Pathways

eLEARNING, EDUCATION TECHNOLOGIES and ONLINE SERVICES

Software Solutions/Vendor Management

Honorlock Proctoring Solution

- Usage data for August:

Usage	Nov	Dec	Jan*	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug
Courses	57	67	22	57	73	60	71	33	37	18
Unique Exams	129	137	38	99	129	156	178	74	140	21
Students	548	687	174	699	817	486	628	370	484	178
Exams Taken	1025	1049	213	1177	1259	952	1213	818	1348	208

Tutor.com

- Usage data for August

Current Number of Semester Sessions	15
Active Students	7
Average Session Length (minutes)	35.94
Student Rating	4.90/5.00
Recommended Rate	100

YuJa Panorama Accessibility Tool

- Faulty training on solution on 8/25

Committees

AI Task Force

- Currently monitoring faculty feedback.

Center for Teaching & Learning Faculty Training and Support

- Faculty training sessions for Artificial Intelligence scheduled for September 15
- D2L workshop scheduled for September 15

Community

Corporate Challenge

- Brian St. Amour was on Bowling and Running team events

Temple College Centennial Gala

- Christa Quigley and Brian St. Amour will attend on September 22

STUDENT SERVICES and ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Enrollment Standings

As of September 1, overall enrollment for the fall 2026 semester has increased by 22.7% from the prior fall term. While much of this growth is attributable to increased dual credit enrollment, spring-to-fall retention among traditional students has also increased by 8.5% compared with the previous year. Traditional student enrollment has surpassed end-of-term fall 2025 levels, with additional growth anticipated before the second 8-week term begins in October.

New Student Orientation

Temple College hosted four New Student Orientation sessions during the week before fall classes began, including three sessions on the Temple campus and one at the East Williamson County Higher Education Center in Hutto. Orientation introduced incoming students to college expectations, technology platforms, academic resources, support services, and opportunities for campus involvement. Feedback from post-orientation survey responses was overwhelmingly positive, with average ratings of 4.64 and 4.80 out of 5 across the two assessed areas. Students frequently described the sessions as informative, welcoming, comprehensive, and helpful in reducing anxiety about beginning college.

Admissions and Records

Department Activities and Meetings

- Ms. Bland and Ms. Hanaway attended training for the new Recruit dashboard during the August 5 CRM meeting.
- Admissions and Records staff supported student ID production for Dual Credit orientations, including Rogers ISD, Legacy Early College High School, and Holland ISD.

Enrollment Advising

With the addition of four new enrollment advisors, the Enrollment Advisor team has updated caseloads, allowing them to proactively support their assigned students currently enrolled while outreaching to non-enrolled students encouraging them to return to Temple College or to complete the necessary steps as a new student.

The Advising team celebrated a record-breaking enrollment with an Enrollment Appreciation breakfast where all enrollment support teams were invited to enjoy breakfast tacos and pastries to express appreciation for their exceptional work.

Career, Transfer, and Athlete Advising

Student-Athlete Enrollment and Engagement

Ms. Araceli Urquiza successfully enrolled new and returning student-athletes, reaching a total retention rate of 60.4%. With student-athletes back on campus and engaged from the first day of classes, the department focused on connecting them with their academic responsibilities and campus resources at the beginning of the semester.

Transfer Tuesday Initiative

Ms. Urquiza developed the Transfer Tuesday calendar and is preparing to launch this semester-long engagement initiative. Transfer Tuesday will provide students with recurring opportunities to learn about transfer institutions, explore pathways, consider academic and career goals, and take actionable steps toward transferring. Faculty and staff participation will help create a campus-wide culture that recognizes transfer as an important component of student success.

Student Engagement and Communication Incentives

Ms. Urquiza introduced incentives encouraging students to monitor and respond to their Temple College email accounts. The initiative reinforces the importance of student email as a primary channel for academic, advising, transfer, and campus information.

Targeted Tutoring for Student-Athletes

Ms. Urquiza partnered with the Director of the Student Success Center to develop targeted tutoring for student-athletes in science, mathematics, English, and business. The proactive initiative is designed to strengthen classroom performance, support persistence, and help student-athletes remain academically eligible and on track toward degree completion.

Financial Aid

Ms. Mary Daniel, Director of Financial Aid, reports that during the 2025–2026 award year, 2,632 Temple College students received Pell Grants totaling \$11,211,903.08, and 1,226 students received Direct Loans totaling \$8,189,828. Temple College's first Fall 2026 financial aid disbursement is scheduled for September 11.

- A total of 7,835 students listed Temple College on their 2025–2026 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- A total of 6,048 students have listed Temple College on their 2026–2027 FAFSA.

Ms. Daniel and Ms. Sheila McMillan, Associate Director of Financial Aid, attended the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators conference and learned about changes affecting the 2026–2027 award year. Major changes associated with the One Big Beautiful Bill Act include simplified student loan repayment options, new annual and lifetime borrowing limits, elimination of certain loan programs, expanded Pell Grant eligibility for some short-term workforce programs, and additional institutional reporting and accountability requirements.

Student Accommodations / International Students

- On August 7, Ms. Reid attended the second annual Student Parent Convening at Northwest Vista College in San Antonio to discuss current laws, policies, and resources supporting pregnant and parenting students in higher education.
- Ms. Reid presented at New Student Orientation sessions on August 13, August 14, and August 17, providing information about disability accommodations, Title IX pregnancy accommodations, and student-parent accommodations.
- Ms. Reid is accepting applications from international F-1 visa students for Spring 2027. Temple College enrolled 38 F-1 students for Fall 2026, including eight new international students.
- A total of 261 students are currently receiving disability accommodations for Fall 2026.
- Eleven students are receiving Title IX pregnancy accommodations, and four students are receiving student-parent accommodations for Fall 2026.

Student Life

September 18 -Temple College Cross Country Club will be hosting a Color Run on campus, with a one-mile path around the campus.

Student Success Center

Ms. Cynthia Martinez, Director of the Student Success Center, reports that the Center conducted extensive outreach to introduce students to its resources and support services. Staff assisted at welcome tents during the start of classes, visited classes across campus, helped Enrollment Management process student ID cards, and hosted an information table in the Student Union to increase awareness of available services.

Math Consultants, together with Math Department Chair Ms. Martha Richey, conducted Math Boot Camps to help students transition successfully into freshman-level mathematics courses. Writing Consultants also conducted workshops to help students prepare for academic and career opportunities.

Main Campus

- Application Essay and Résumé-Building Workshops: August 13 and August 18.
- Start the Semester Ready to Write Workshops: August 20 and August 21.
- Math Boot Camps: August 13 and August 14.

Hutto Center

- Math Boot Camp: August 13.
- Application Essay Workshop: September 4.

The Student Success Center also expanded math and writing support at EWCHEC. New Consultants conducted outreach to faculty in Hutto and Taylor, and students have begun using the Center for assistance.

During August, tutoring services recorded provided 164 total hours of tutoring.

Testing Center

Ms. Monique Gibson, Director of Testing, reports that the Temple College Testing Centers experienced increased service demand from summer into fall 2026. The centers continued providing comprehensive testing services to Temple College students, external institutions, community partners, and workforce programs while implementing operational and technology improvements.

Facilities and Operational Updates

- The Testing Centers operated under normal summer hours and provided in-person and remote Accuplacer and HESI testing.
- Both testing laboratories were fully utilized for course examinations, Next Generation HESI, TEAS, and other institutional and external examinations. Four dedicated accommodation rooms supported students requiring testing accommodations.
- The department collaborated with Information Technology Services to update the Hutto laboratory and enhance testing technology at the Temple center, including Microsoft 365 configurations, removal of outdated software, and installation of Exemplify-capable computers.
- The department implemented new ATI Testing units and updated Accuplacer units to support increased enrollment and testing demand.

Professional Development and Staff Engagement

- Participated in the August meeting of the Texas Association of Community and Technical College Professionals and weekly leadership meetings.
- Supported Workforce and Continuing Education testing activities and Texas A&M University–Central Texas’s August application drive.
- Participated in All College Day, the division meeting, four fall 2026 New Student Orientation sessions, and First Day Welcome activities.
- Met with Workforce and Continuing Education (WCE) Coordinator to discuss testing needs for the 2026–2027 academic year and supported Clinical Medical Assistant testing on August 29.

Veterans Affairs

Certification and Office Services

Veterans Affairs staff continued processing fall 2026 Hazlewood Act exemptions, MyCAA benefits, Tuition Assistance, and VA educational benefit certifications while assisting prospective and current military-affiliated students.

Events and Outreach

- Attended Comic Con 2026 with the Community Engagement Team on August 1 & 2.
- Attended the Back-to-School event at Fort Hood on August 20.
- Attended the East Wilco Business Expo on August 22.
- Veterans Affairs is partnering with the Texas Veterans Commission, Workforce Solutions, and the Temple College Student Veterans of America chapter for a Community and Career Fair on September 24 at the Temple campus.

FINE ARTS

- Dr. Derek Mudd, Assoc. Prof. for Communication and Theatre, and Lily Penfold, Asst. Prof. for Communication, served on a grant-funded workgroup with two other faculty members to create a training for Temple College instructors on best practices for online teaching. The training is now in Beta testing and will be available to TC instructors by the Spring semester.
- Dr. Kate Bae, Adjunct Professor of Piano, returned from performing five concerts at the three-week-long Alexandria Festival of the Lakes in Alexandria, MN.
- Priscilla Santana led a Musical Theatre Masterclass at Temple High School.
- Dr. Nathan Siegel led an All-State Percussion Clinic for area high school percussionists on Saturday, August 29 at Temple College.
- New faculty:
 - Dr. Steve Ko, Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies
 - Chelsea Stern, Adjunct Professor of Voice
 - Liam O'Dell, Adjunct Professor of Jazz Bass
- Melissa Green, Assoc. Prof. for Communication and Theatre, is now a Designated Meisner Teacher. The Meisner Acting Technique was developed by Sanford Meisner whose students included Robert Duvall, Phillip Seymour Hoffman, & Diane Keaton. Ms. Green received training with the Meisner Institute.
- The music and theatre department provided a special welcome orientation for incoming majors prior to the start of the fall semester. Both art club and theatre club are active in TC student activities and club enrollment.

Upcoming Events:

- Fall Opening Gallery Reception: "*Vessels and Vestments*" featuring works by ceramic artist David Hill. Saturday, September 19th, 6:00p.m. WFVA The Michael Donahue Gallery. Exhibit will run through October 22nd.
- Temple College and Temple Music Club will be hosting "*Show Choir Showdown*" featuring Temple High School, Belton High School, and Lake Belton High School on Monday, September 21st, 7:30p.m. Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center.
- Teri Johnson Temple College Faculty Recital "*These Are a Few of My Favorite Sings*", Saturday, September 26th, 7:30 p.m. Graeter-Jackson Backstage Theatre. Free and open to the public.

- Faculty Jazz Concert, Tuesday October 1st, 12:30p.m. Graeter-Jackson Backstage Theatre. Free and open to the public.
- Musical Theatre Showcase, Tuesday October 13th, 12:30p.m. Graeter-Jackson Backstage Theatre. Free and open to the public.

EAST WILLIAMSON COUNTY HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS

Fall classes are going well and EWCHEC-Taylor and Hutto Centers. September 1st, staff took time to celebrate the record enrollment this year and congratulate our Enrollment team for their outstanding efforts.

Enrollment staff will soon begin attending local high schools for college fairs and assisting local school districts with the Apply Texas applications for seniors. Central Texas TACRAO college fairs will occur September 21-25, 2026.

Hutto ISD Board of Trustees voted to post a branch campus tax rate as presented by Mr. Graham at the ISD Board meeting, August 27, 2026. A public hearing will follow on September 24, 2026 followed by the regular board meeting to include the action item for adopting the branch campus maintenance tax.

Temple College will be hosting an Alumni Business Networking event at Cottonwood Creek Brewery and Smokehouse in Hutto on September 2, 2026. The event is for Williamson County alumni and is combined with Western Governor's University and Hutto Chamber of Commerce.

EWCHEC Area Student & Community Events this month:

- September 2 – TC Alumni Business Networking, Hutto
- September 9 – Greater Taylor Foundation Economic Empowerment Council
- September 9 – Hutto Chamber Luncheon, Hutto Center
- September 10 – Hutto Power Breakfast, Hutto Center
- September 10 – TX31 Central TX Leadership Day, Ft. Hood
- September 21 – Taylor Chamber Luncheon - Rep. Caroline Harris Davila, Taylor
- September 21-25 – Central Texas College Fairs, Area High Schools
- September 26 – Hutto Resource Center Golf Tournament Sponsor
- September 30 – Professional Women of WilCo Luncheon, Hutto Center

LIBERAL ARTS

Liberal Arts recently implemented a Distinguished Service Award for their department. The award recognizes outstanding faculty members who go above and beyond to serve students, staff, and administration. The awards were presented on September 2nd, “ambush-style,” as the Liberal Arts leadership surprised three colleagues during their classes.

The inaugural recipients are:

- Dan Brown, Government
- Reid Echols, English
- Geoffrey Lewis, History