

# CREATIONS

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## CREATE: The Power and Potential of Multi-System Collaboration

Producing a sufficient supply of well-prepared, highly effective teachers has proven to be one of Texas' most important and persistent human resource issues. Given the state's enormous scale, as well as the growth and complexity of its public education enterprise, Texas is presented with unique challenges in generating the quantity and quality of teachers needed for its 1000+ public school systems. Recognizing that deficits in either teacher supply or skills present significant risks for public schools and higher education alike, a group of major university systems have voluntarily joined together to establish one of the state's most ambitious educational research and development forums-The Center for Research, Evaluation and Advancement of Teacher Education (CREATE).

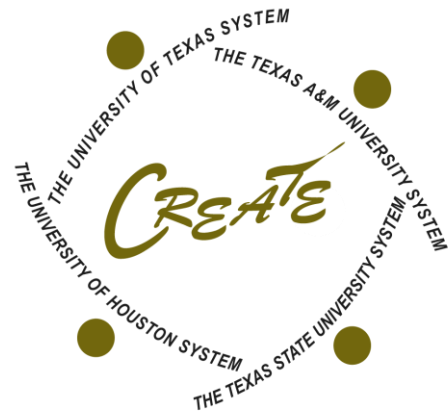
CREATE's ground-breaking work is focused on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of university-based teacher preparation practices through cross-system research, faculty development and program evaluation. Founded in 2004, the project is the

cooperative brainchild of the four largest state university systems-The Texas A&M University System, The Texas State University System, The University of Texas System and The University of Houston System. Having grown since its inception to include membership of 44 public and private universities, the CREATE consortium represents one of the largest educational research collaboratives in the country.

Underwritten by three prominent Texas foundations, CREATE derives core funding from The Houston Endowment Inc., with support from the Sid W. Richardson Foundation of Fort Worth and The Meadows Foundation of Dallas. The organization is governed by a four-member Coordinating

Committee of designated academic leaders from each of the respective managing systems.

The purpose of this publication is to highlight CREATE's numerous research and development products designed to enhance the effectiveness of its member institutions teacher preparation programs. This issue presents an overview of one such product, the **Schools of Professional Education (ScOPE) Framework**, which is a working model for reform and improvement of university programs.



### Calendar of Events

September 21-22:  
Richardson Forum  
Implementation Meeting  
San Antonio, TX

October 5: PACE  
Distribution Meeting –  
Austin, TX

For more information  
about these and other  
events, please call (936)  
273-7661 or visit our  
website at  
[www.createtx.org](http://www.createtx.org).

# Schools of Professional Education (ScOPE): A Framework for Goal-Based School-Centered Improvement of Teacher Education

CREATE has developed a management framework for establishing Schools of Professional Education (ScOPE) as a guiding tool for enhancing quality and effectiveness of university-based teacher preparation programs. ScOPE is intended as a working model for reform and improvement of university programs. This framework is grounded in research and best practice, and represents a refined vision for university-based teacher education in Texas that focuses on deep and continuous partnerships with public schools and high levels of faculty engagement in these schools as a means to improve program

effectiveness and ultimately affect P-12 student learning.

The ScOPE framework is a goal-oriented and outcomes-driven leadership approach that requires goal-setting, managing the level and frequency of faculty engagement in programmatic impact functions, and aligning and continuously improving core operations in order to achieve pre-determined professional outcomes.

ScOPE's fundamental theory of work requires university teacher preparation programs to 1) develop and empower a functional university leadership team; 2) set and

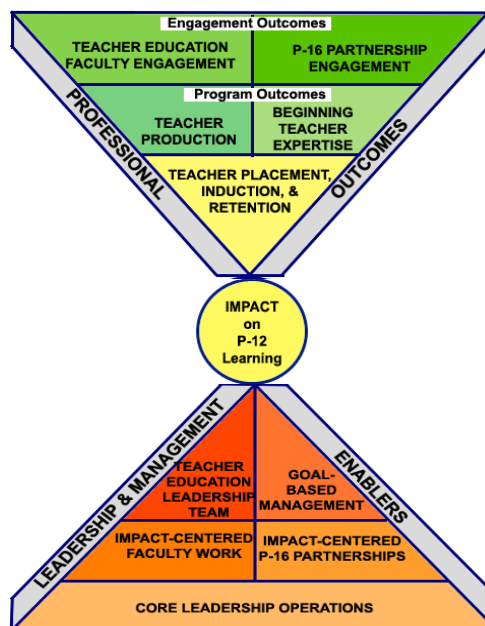
articulate a set of targeted professional outcomes; 3) manage the work of university faculty, and; 4) accept responsibility for evaluating the on-going management and operational leadership necessary to achieve desired professional outcomes.

The framework is implemented by a teacher education leadership team consisting of university-wide and P-12 school representation. They are charged with setting and aligning goals in order to achieve significant positive change in six outcome areas: 1) increased faculty engagement; 2) mutually

*(Continued on next page.)*

*The ScOPE framework is a refined vision for university-based teacher education in Texas that focuses on deep and continuous partnerships with public schools and high levels of faculty engagement*

**Diagram of Scope Framework**



## Overview of ScOPE Framework *(Continued from Page 2)*

beneficial P-16 Partnerships; 3) targeted teacher production; 4) increased beginning teacher expertise; 5) teacher placement, induction and retention; and 6) measureable impact on P-12 student learning.

ScOPE assumes that achievement of desired outcomes does not happen by chance but must be managed and effectively led. This occurs through a set of process goals called leadership and management enablers.

These enablers include: 1) organizing and using a teacher education leadership team consisting of university- wide and P-12 school representation; 2) setting and managing goals and evaluating outcomes; 3) facilitating impact-centered teacher education faculty work; 4) facilitating impact-centered P-16 partnerships; and 5) aligning and improving the core leadership operations of public school stakeholder engagement, program-

centered faculty development, and teacher education curriculum evaluation. Using the enablers as defined by the model and determining process goals for the enablers will increase the likelihood of achieving the desired outcomes.

## ScOPE Model: Program Participation and Implementation

Implementation of the ScOPE Framework is a two stage process. The first stage is the completion of a performance analysis of the participating institution's teacher education program. This phase of the implementation process is marked by an extensive round of data collection, where the participating institution provides CREATE with information related to its programmatic functions, faculty engagement levels, and district/school partnerships.

CREATE staff also collects employment, retention, certification, and test score information of the graduates of the participating institution using the Performance Analysis System for Colleges of Education (PACE), another research

tool developed by CREATE. Collectively, the data is used to conduct a current snapshot of the participating institution's teacher education program as it relates to the ScOPE Framework.

The second stage of the ScOPE Framework requires the leadership team to set specific goals and outcomes related to the framework. In this stage, CREATE consultants continue to support the participating institution the implementation year, providing the necessary resources and technical assistance to the leadership team as they set their program goals.

To date, there are four institutions who are currently participating in the ScOPE project. The Univer-

sity of Houston– Downtown (UH-D) worked with CREATE during the 2008-2009 academic year to pilot the ScOPE Framework. They are currently in the second stage of the ScOPE framework. Three new institutions, Angelo State University, Texas A&M-Commerce, and the University of Texas- El Paso applied and have been selected to participate during the 2009-2010 school year. The data collection process is currently underway at the three new institutions.

Application for the next cycle of ScOPE participants will be available in January, 2010. For more information about the application process, please contact Dr. Mona S. Wineburg at (936) 273-7661.

*There are four CREATE member institutions, The University of Houston- Downtown, Angelo State University, Texas A&M- Commerce, and the University of Texas- El Paso, currently participating in the ScOPE project.*

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## Spotlight Event

### 2009 PACE System: Performance Analysis for Colleges of Education

**Monday, October 5, 2009**

**10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Location:**

**Austin Marriott South  
Austin, TX**

The Performance Analysis for Colleges of Education (PACE) report offers a useful prototype of a reporting system for universities and their Colleges of Education centered on public schools. PACE is offered in support of the teacher preparation programs associated with the CREATE consortium. This analysis is intended to be used as a planning and resource tool that can assist teacher education leaders in assessing needs, targeting refinements in their preparation programs and evaluating their organizational effects over time.

Please join us for this consortium-wide meeting, where we will provide an overview of the results of the 2008 reports of all CREATE member institutions and their corresponding impact zone. Lunch will be provided.

**For more information about PACE and/or the meeting,  
please contact Sherri Lowrey at (936) 273-7661**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

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