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(For immediate release)

Odessa College recognized by THECB for Excellence

ODESSA (Feb. 14, 2018) – Odessa College was recognized recently for excellence by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board before an audience of chancellors and presidents, chief academic officers, chief instructional officers, and other higher education leaders.

THECB Chair Bobby Jenkins stated that the “recognition of excellence showcases models of excellence within the education community and highlight the outstanding work of our education faculty and administrators in the outstanding institutional programs around the state.” Jenkins added, “Odessa College is the epitome, the poster child of 60x30TX.”

The success of Odessa College’s “Eight-Week Terms: A Pathway to 60x30TX” program, which reimagined the traditional 16-week term, was the focus of THECB’s recognition of excellence. OC President Gregory D. Williams, Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness Don Wood, and Vice President for Instruction Valerie Jones attended the THECB’s quarterly meeting in Austin to receive the recognition of excellence on behalf of Odessa College.

During their presentation to the board and approximately 100 meeting observers, the OC administrators addressed how changing from 16 week semesters to eight week terms has proven successful on numerous levels in improving student success. The college has experienced tremendous improvement in first-time-in-college student enrollment, student persistence in their courses, numbers of students receiving federal financial assistance, and the number of students completing with a credential.

President Williams thanked the board and THECB Commissioner Raymond Paredes for their support during Odessa College’s persistence in making changes to do much more in higher education to help Texas and to help the nation.