# Tech Team Update 5/11/22

Graham Chapman – Executive Director, Academic Information Systems, University of Texas at Austin
David Muck – Senior IT Manager, Academic Information Systems, University of Texas at Austin

## Current cycle updates and proposals (David Muck):

- For the Fall 2022 semester, we have seen an increase of 22% in total applications and an increase of 17% in submitted applications compared to the same time last year. Comparing the same time period to the Fall 2020 semester we are up 9% in total applications and we are down 5% in submitted applications.
- Fraudulent applications continue to be a problem for some of our institutions. We continue to work to reduce this issue.
- Additional daily application deliveries – We have a number of institutions participating in additional deliveries times of 7 am and 12 pm (in addition to the normal 6 pm application delivery). Please reach out to us if you are interested in either of these additional delivery times.
- All three of our main portals (applicant, administrator, and counselor) are now hosted on Amazon Web Services. We have retired the legacy counselor site and are planning to retire the legacy applicant site at the beginning of June. The legacy administrative portal will remain active until mid-summer.
- We estimate there will be a significant reduction in infrastructure costs with the move to AWS based on what we are seeing so far. The team continues to make efforts to further reduce costs moving forward. Once we have a full application cycle completed, we should be able to take several measures to reduce cost based on the current requirements of the system.
- We are working to implement some changes to the residency flow in time for the new cycle. We plan to implement logic that better takes into account dual-credit applicants as well as improvements for international students that meet the 36 month rule requirement.

## Future cycle proposals and updates (David Muck):

**These are all carried forward from last meeting as they need more research.**

1. A proposal to add additional terms to the ApplyTexas application. We currently offer Spring, Summer I, Summer, Summer II, and Fall. The specific request was for a Fall II term. (proposal by Trinity Valley Community College).

2. Consideration for the discussion regarding continuing education and workforce development students (proposal by Christopher Roche from Alvin Community College).

   From the request:
   "I would like to speak to someone about the ability to include continuing education and workforce development students in the Apply Texas application process. I feel if we did this, it would align and promote those not looking for a degree to continue their educational journey. Additionally, with upskilling, reskilling, and good jobs challenge, and pathways, FAFSA/TAFSA is often require for our students and would allow these students to be registered as ACC students. The onboarding and perceptions of the students is critical to the pathways mentoring and coaching. Again, I just have several questions that I am unable to get answers, so it is best to go to the source. Thank you."

3. Consideration for an additional Continuing Education application type (proposal by Christopher Roche from Alvin Community College).

   From the request:
   "Has the Board discussed an implementation of a CE Apply Texas application that is shorter version than the existing one?  Our CEWD division at ACC has requested to be able to use the existing Apply Texas application for their students, but it's really not conducive for their needs."

4. Request to add a question regarding the Texas school district the applicant lives in, if applicable (proposal by Laura Isdell at Lone Star College).

   From the request:
   "While the Texas residency questions help determine In and Out of State residency for institutions, community colleges must also determine In and Out of District residency.  Currently the only way to do this through the 2-year application is by adding a custom question.  I'd like to request ApplyTexas include a question such as "Select the Texas Independent School District (ISD) you reside in" with the option to then select any ISD in the state through a searchable list or map selection option to help the end user easily find their ISD."