

The **Apply Texas Advisory Committee**, made up of admissions administrators from Texas public institutions of higher education and participating private institutions of higher education, provides the Board with advice and recommendations regarding the Apply Texas System. The System is the state's primary method for applying for admission to Texas public institutions of higher education. The System includes, but is not limited to, common admission applications; a portal for completing application forms; help desks to provide users assistance; and a portal through which Texas high school counselors gain access to status data regarding their students' progress in applying for admission and financial aid.

Finalist: Pooja Mallipaddi

Ms. Mallipaddi is a student at The University of Texas at Arlington. She is seeking a Bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Chemistry and Biology.

The **Graduate Education Advisory Committee** (GEAC) is a 24-member committee comprised of faculty and administrators from the state's public and private universities and health-related institutions. GEAC first met in 2005 to review and implement recommendations made in the report, *Doctoral Education in Texas*, which was adopted by the Board in October 2004. Since then, GEAC's purview has expanded to a regular review of current issues relating to graduate education at public universities in the state. GEAC collects and analyzes data, using it to create policy recommendations for agency staff and the Board. GEAC produced the *18 Characteristics of Doctoral Education*, a set of key statistics for each doctoral program, now required for all public institutions to post on their websites.

Finalist: Arabhi Cumbum Nagasunder

Ms. Nagasunder is a student at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

The **Learning Technology Advisory Committee** (LTAC) engages in substantive policy research and discussion dealing with the increasingly important role that learning technology plays in Texas higher education. The Coordinating Board recognizes the important role that distance education and computer assisted instruction, including e-learning tools such as electronic textbooks and open course materials, play in helping the state reach the goals of *Closing the Gaps by 2015*.

Finalist: Jorden Meneghetti

Mr. Meneghetti is a student at The University of Texas at Austin. He is seeking a degree in History.

The **Undergraduate Education Advisory Committee** (UEAC) serves as a forum for problem solving and the generation of good ideas to improve undergraduate education that reflect the goals of Texas' higher education plan, 60x30TX. The UEAC provides advice and recommendations to the Board. The committee makes recommendations for future directions the Coordinating Board and institutions should take to enhance undergraduate education in Texas and in response to legislative policy changes. The UEAC includes representatives from public community and technical colleges, universities, and health related institutions, independent colleges and universities, and one non-voting student member.

Finalist: Sonia Flores

Ms. Flores is a student at The University of Texas Permian Basin. She is seeking a degree in Communication.