



## Institutional Research Council

555 West 57<sup>th</sup> Street (BMW Building) 1240 Conference Room (12<sup>th</sup> floor)

10:00am-12pm

### IRC Minutes

**Friday, February 23, 2018**

#### 1. Announcements and Updates

**a) PMP:** The name will probably change and be simply called the Student Data Book or something similar. The council discussion seemed to agree that it's important to keep the overall look to retain some continuity. While there is no PMP process this year due to the change of chancellors, the indicators are still important for accountability. Normally the data are produced in April, but there will be some discussion of the metrics – IR Council will have input – and the production will start after that, probably in May. The data book is seen as important by the colleges.

**b) New Appointments:** Tara Twiste is the new deputy director at Central, and Michael Lipkin is the new IR director at Laguardia.

#### 2. Discussion

**a) Surveys – Climate survey:** Launched on Wednesday to a 50% random sample. It will run for about 4 weeks and close in mid-March. The SES will be ready to review in Qualtrics on Tuesday (2/27) for feedback. They are expecting to launch this around March 15<sup>th</sup>. There is the possibility for colleges to attach individual questions to the survey, but if colleges have questions they feel should be in this survey, they need to be submitted by next Friday (3/2). The surveys are being set out by an old technology system that has the cuny.edu domain, so white listing is not needed. Links are unique to each student. Since the samples are split, campus publicity isn't possible.

**SES (Student Experience Survey) vs. FAFSA :** Central has done some research comparing the FAFSA reported "first generation". Definition of first generation: If either (non-missing) parent has any college experience, the student is not first-generation. For FAFSA, there are four responses, with "College or beyond" as the highest level." There are nulls for those who did not complete the FAFSA, and "missing/unknown" for those who did complete the FAFSA but did not provide this information. FAFSA rates for first generation are somewhat higher than those in the SES survey, but the results look similar. Zun explained the methodology and offered to share the codes for any with questions or comments.

College-specific profile created by Central. Is it OK to share on the web? The issue seems to be the inconsistency between the IPEDS data and that reported in the CUNY Staff Report.

**b) IPEDS – HR Data:** This data is usually frozen in mid-November for the fall, but the colleges haven't completed all their transactions by then. The frozen data is then used for IPEDs report, but when OIRA Central goes to verify the data with the campuses, there is a big discrepancy. While the college is allowed to modify past data to correct it, the modifications are not made public. Census date is November.

*IPEDS GRS (Graduation Rates):* There are substantial changes to the methodology. Looks at our graduates plus transfer out graduates from National Student Clearinghouse. The IRA tables in the IRDB can be used to display the data. Tara showed a workbook presenting some of the tables needed.

Pell status now looks at the entire academic year, not just fall. So if a student doesn't get Pell in fall but does in spring, they are now counted as Pell. Ariel contributed that these tables include students from fall and spring semesters, and only if funds have been dispersed. There are specific changes that affect comprehensive colleges. Formerly, students who were still enrolled for the BA but earned the Associate degree were counted as still enrolled. Now they will be counted as having earned the lower degree.

Transfers are now redefined. If a student transferred to another CUNY in Spring, but doesn't return in the fall, the students used to be counted as not enrolled. They are now counted as a transfer. In short: last year's IPEDS cannot be compared to this year's data. Instead, to look backwards using the same criteria, the IRA tables can be used.

The workbook will be shared once it is fully cleaned-up.

**c) Changes to the SES Survey:** Additional data (library, bookstore) that were in Noel Levitz have been included in SES. The survey is now trying to distinguish between use of services or facilities, and satisfaction. Students now self-identify as veteran/military, as visa holders, as parents, and then are guided to the relevant questions for these areas.

**d) Joint Assessment and IR Councils Retreats:** June 15<sup>th</sup> at Hunter College. The proposal is to have more of a retreat with a structured program instead of presentation breakouts. The planning team will send out an inquiry about topics to be considered at this retreat.

Topics: Academic Program Review, Data Governance, Organizational Structure: How can we better support each other.

### **Next Council Meeting:**

IRC – Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018