

IRC Minutes**Friday, May 31st, 2013****ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The 2013 Assessment / Institutional Research Joint Retreat will take place Friday, June 14, 2013, at Queens College. Be there or be square!!!
 - Ric Anzaldua will present about Middle States at the IR retreat.
- Jolie Terrazzo, Research Analyst for Assessment, introduced herself.
- The 2013 CUNY Baccalaureate Alumni Survey
 - Preliminary data has been made available for IR directors in Tumbleweed.
 - This file can be used for the PMP indicator: 5.2 Job and education rates for graduates will increase.
 - The 5% response rate for this survey will change as the second wave rolls in.
 - This is a population survey so the response rate is less important than for a sample survey.
 - Colleges can use other data for this purpose if they have it and they think it is of better quality.
- The 2013 Noel-Levitz Scales
 - Christine Wade: The Service Excellence indicator reported in the PMP combines three separate Noel-Levitz scales (Academic Advising, Campus Support Services, and Concern for the Individual) for senior and comprehensive colleges.
 - The three combined scales used for the senior colleges are also used for the community colleges combined with one additional Noel-Levitz scale: Academic Services.
 - As intended, this measure differs slightly from the Service Excellence scale reported to you by Noel-Levitz.
 - Both Ric Anzaldua and Mike Ayers asked about NL scale items that are not applicable to some colleges (like parking at John Jay). Christine Wade said she would look into it.
- RAPM
 - The group reported that RAPMS are well understood by stake-holders at the campuses.
 - Enrollment managers were interested in the RAPMS.
- PMP
 - Christine Wade asked about PMP and said she was relieved that the data book was published.
 - Ric Anzaldua reported that his Provost thought that method for computing instructional hours of veteran faculty was a better method as compared to previous years.

- Susanne Tumelty wants 2 year retention rates back in the PMP.
- Medgar Evers is presenting PMP indicators to President. Report is useful.
 - i. The new Provost is implementing strategic plan using data from the PMP report.
- Cheryl brought change to PMP process for all colleges on objective one.
- Suzanne Tumelty said the context indicators at the back of the data book was a useful format.
- Christine Wade said that the new indicators for the Goals and Targets which colleges need to set by the end of June will be distributed on or about June 10th. There are not as many new indicators as last year.
- David Crook made a number of announcements:
 - CUNYStart will be scaling up.
 - i. Drew Allen did an evaluation which shows good results. 80% of program participants matriculate as freshmen with better performance and retention than matched non-participants.
 - ii. Some concern about reduction of tuition revenue at community colleges due to scale up of the CUNYStart program.
 - iii. Remedial need profile may change at college.
 - iv. Future research will focus on completion rates.
 - Student performance in USIP (immersion) has been satisfactory, and this program may be scaled up in the future.
 - Christine Wade said that OIRA had worked on some of the coding issues which need to be resolved and implemented so as not to affect reporting. CUNYfirst data has not been reliable and OIRA has been forced to rely on pgms to identify participants.
 - DC: OIRA working with LaGuardia which math topics students struggle with. Pull data out of Maple TA; Improve instruction in alignment with exam.
 - Set of changes from VC Logue on math and remediation policy. Pathways will establish common standard for seniors and ccs. Change in Quant Reasoning courses will satisfy math requirements, creating curriculum options for colleges. Students will probably be required to continue in remediation if they need it, until they don't.
 - EL from QCC: Math standards have been rising and more students are therefore remedial. Fewer students need reading and writing CUNY Start siphons off the weaker students. 2012 went to common dept final which resulted in lower success rates. Net success went up because more students went up.
 - Labor Outcomes legislation: Job Linkage of all vocational programs.
 - i. A memorandum of understanding is developing between SUNY and CUNY with the NYS Dept of Labor for quarterly wage records for former students.
 - ii. Data will contain detailed code of the sector in the economy that they are part of. This reporting will constitute an unfunded mandate for OIRA.
 - iii. Multiple cohorts can be submitted and will be returned.
 - iv. First installment of de-identified data will believe when we get the data.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Voluntary System of Accountability

- A brief presentation outlining very basic information about VSA, and describing the College Portrait search tool, was given.
- VC Logue has required the colleges to initiate participation by July 1, 2013; some of the required content must be completed within three months.
- Question: whose responsibility is it to sign the contract and join VSA? The Provost is the most likely person at each college, but IR professionals should find out for certain (this may vary from college to college).
- Only colleges offering a baccalaureate are required to participate.
- One concern is that colleges may be required to administer the NSSE every three years to satisfy a requirement on student learning. The IR Council will look into alternatives, like using Noel-Levitz or adding items to the SES, that might relieve colleges of this expense.
- Colleges will be able to count students who have transferred elsewhere towards their “student success rate” if they are still attending, or have graduated, from those colleges.

2. Managing a Survey Calendar or Schedule

- A common problem at CUNY colleges is that surveys are being administered by different departments and offices around the campus without internal communication or planning.
 - i. Some surveys may have significant overlap in subject matter.
 - ii. Students may be less willing to participate in surveys if they feel oversurveyed.
 - iii. Lastly, the quality of surveys not run through IR is often poor.
- Sam Michalowski will deliver a presentation at the upcoming retreat that will address ways this problem has been dealt with at the College of Staten Island.
- Lehman College has a survey college, and requires IRB clearance to do a survey.
- For alumni surveys, various options exist:
 - i. See the last announcement by David Crook above.
 - ii. CSI and Brooklyn have administered surveys at graduation, so that very recent graduates can be surveyed on their future plans and expectations.
 - iii. CUNY’s Baccalaureate Alumni Survey remains a useful source; the final version should be available in late summer or fall.

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4. Adjusting to CUNYfirst
- Richard Gampert reported that there was some trouble running public queries last couple of days, where certain CUNYfirst queries would crash. This was also reported at Brooklyn.
 - Elizabeth Lackner reported that the 805 appears to be incomplete. Richard Gampert also reported that testing data is truncated.
 - Elizabeth Lackner reported that CUNYfirst transition appears to have produced a lower retention rate in the last PMP cycle.
 - David Crook reminds all that OIRA produces the official university enrollment counts.
 - Ariel indicated that truncation of data could result from problems with the network, browser, or the CUNYfirst system; but there is no notification to tell you that this happened. A review of data before reports are created is needed to determine if this has happened. For this reason, Brooklyn College has refrained from fully automating daily enrollment reports.

Next IR Council Meeting: August 30, 2013