

IRC Minutes

Friday, November 21, 2014

1. Delaware Cost Study (Colin Chellman, OIRA)

“Refined means macro” allows use of a peer analysis tool. This costs \$500 dollars (one-time fee) for the campuses. This additional tool will not be covered by Central. The tool is available to download. Colin will send a link to the senior colleges with information on how to download.

2. Announcements (David Crook, OIRA)

David Crook informed the Council that the Chancellor announced his priorities for CUNY in a speech to ABNY (Association for the Better New York). David highlighted a few areas, including developmental education, workforce preparation, online education, and private-public partnerships. He directed the Council to the CUNY website for the full speech: <http://www1.cuny.edu/sites/news-chancellor/2014/11/chancellors-plan-for-a-21st-century-cuny/>.

3. Interactive Dashboard (Scott Heill, OIRA)

OIRA is creating a CUNY interactive factbook using Tableau. It is currently built on the Tableau public site. To date, it is a work in progress. It visualizes publicly available data and can be shared with others on campus. The factbook displays demographics based on census data. The interactive features may be used for drilling down: age, gender, ethnic background. The link will be sent to the IR listserv. This is a demo version, and the real link may change.

[The temporary link is

<https://public.tableausoftware.com/profile/sh7303#!/vizhome/CUNYSysDashboardMock-Up/Start>]

Fall 2014 enrollment may be viewed by zip-code, for example, with mouse-over functionality. No zone is shown with fewer than five students. CBIL is the data source. There are also other data sources: Fall 2013 Staff Facts, for example. There are also several familiar PMP data points. Graduation rates and degrees conferred will be put up soon.

The Chancellor is interested in a dashboard, but this will require goals and metrics that reflect the new priority areas.

Related discussion:

- Think about how IR campus pages could be presented on the CUNY website.
- Hunter and BMCC have recently purchased Tableau. CSI has the individual license in IR. Collaboration can be encouraged. (Tableau Users Group, or T.U.G. :-)).
- Does IT or IR take the lead on dashboard initiatives? IR needs to be defining the data requirements. OIRA has tried to have some independent IT capacity, via IRDB. IT needs to work with IR to ensure data and definition consistency.
- IT works more with transactional data and gets different results from IR. In an ideal relationship, IT would act as a service provider to IR.

- At Lehman, the Business Intelligence tool has been used by several offices, and often they are not getting the right or same data. It's difficult to explain that census data is different than transactional data.
- IR-IT collaboration is a bigger topic. We should return to this at a future date.

3. Survey Planning (Zun Tang, OIRA) and Survey Issues/Questions (Joan Lambe, Hunter and Annie Lee, Brooklyn)

Zun introduced a spreadsheet that shows whether Central or colleges are responsible for various survey aspects: source of funds, payment to vendor, administration and data collection. Suggestions for improvements were made. The spreadsheet will be posted on the wiki. Let Zun know if you have more suggestions.

[The chart is posted on the wiki: <http://oirap.wikispaces.com/CUNY+Surveys>]

Noel-Levitz Survey

- Check the Noel-Levitz website for answers to questions about pricing and services Noel-Levitz offers.
- OIRA requested that the campuses inform its office about their administration methods to field the Noel Levitz surveys.
- Colleges may decide when to run the survey, but must have the results by May.
- The link to the survey may be posted on Blackboard for students to access.
- It's still required to use the long form for Noel Levitz, which is needed for PMP indicators.
- The concern about the online version is that students will abandon it before completion because it takes 45 minutes. Elisa will investigate what information about Noel Levitz response and completion rates.

Student Climate Survey

Upcoming new survey. Not yet developed. Has to do with sexual assault issues. Needs careful wording.

Student Experience Survey

2014 SES survey results are online, along with the survey instruments. Please check the results for your campus. The SPSS file will be posted later on Tumbleweed.

Princeton Review

Asked Hunter College to provide student emails or distribute survey to all students/a random sample. Princeton Review used to just come on-campus and find students. The survey is over 90 items long. David Crook will consult with others in the administration about any downside to refusing to do this.

Macauley Honors College Survey

If CUNY decides to help, OIRA will draw from their own data and this will not fall on the individual colleges.

4. STEM classifications (Mark Casazza, OIRA and Richard Gampert)

(Reference: Go to the wiki and search for STEM. Find the document for Stem Flags.)

Seeking consistency in STEM codes and usage across CUNYFirst, IRDB, and other CUNY systems.

Individual CIP codes are used to classify a major as STEM. Coding for CIP 2010 has remained stable, with additions noted by date.

Discussion about what to define as a STEM major and the consequences of changing majors' classifications.

For example,

- Are there interdisciplinary majors that could be STEM?
- Should medical informatics be classified as STEM or allied health?
- Is business statistics STEM?
- Is a particular economics major that is heavily math-related STEM?
- Is accounting STEM?
- How does the classification impact reporting and funding?

NSF has a broad range view of science, which includes social behavioral sciences. One suggestion is to include two STEM classifications: CUNY STEM and NSF STEM. CUNY STEM reporting might require one definition, while the goal of getting grants might suggest another definition.

If each campus could look in IRDB to compare current STEM flag with existing majors to see if anything is out of line. Please let Mark Casazza know if there is any major that seems incorrectly classified. We want to get everyone using the same definitions.

It seemed the consequences of changing STEM classification involve other CUNY stakeholders beyond IR Council. OIRA will check into future directions.

Next IR Council Meeting: December 19, 2014