

Institutional Research Council**555 West 57th Street (BMW Building) 1240 Conference Room (12th floor)****10:00am-12pm****IRC Minutes****Friday, May 19, 2017****Announcements:**

- a. Getting together at AIR – Use list serve. Elisabeth Lackner will coordinate.
- b. Update on Retreat – link will be sent out again to the list serve today. 33 people so far have registered.
- c. IR Directors Planning Meeting: Thursday July 27th 10:00 to noon.
- d. OIRA Central Data collections calendar and list shared with campus registrars, via list serve, and this communication with the registrars will be shared with IR directors.
- e. VSA
 - We have no central funding to support campuses' participation in the VSA this year.
 - We do not plan to include VSA funds in our budget in the future.

1. Software Discussion:

Discussion: Is there software used on several campuses that might be better handled at the central level for the entire system?

Example: Qualtrix contract was recently approved at Guttman. This could be considered a template for other campuses who want to get Qualtrix could use this, or it could just be available at the same price for all campuses.

Some resources used on campus are more in the cloud and do not involve installation on a campus computer or server. It's not clear if these can be considered subscriptions or if they should be handled in the same way as installed software licenses. Generally the purchase of software is a difficult process for the campuses.

The discussion then moved to the reliability of data and issues of what is being measured, and which tables/variables in IRDB are best to use. A proposal was made that the IR Council as a group look at the areas in the IRDB where we are not certain if we understand the data? OIRA Central proposes trying to do a better job of communicating about the system. Council members can bring their work and present it and find out if there is a way to make it more productive.

It's hoped that the full admissions module will help improve the testing data and make this clearer. SKAT will not be used once that is working.

2. Excelsior Scholarships

The OIRA policy group has produced a list of potential eligible students that has been shared with the Office of Student Financial Assistance. This list is expected to be distributed by OSFA to the colleges' financial aid officers. Discussion about the issues of the scholarships included the limitations of the

scholarships and the concern that students may not bother with the FAFSA on the assumption that the tuition is free. The lists of potentially eligible students have not yet been sent to the campuses. OIRA Central is checking on why this hasn't happened. The first deadline is coming up very soon.

The OIRA Central Policy group is putting different scenarios forth with the NY state government since the final requirements to qualify for the scholarship have not been finalized. It is quite possible that equated credits will not count toward eligibility.

3. PMP

PMP report – The Chancellor wants a smaller set of primary indicators (10) that are aligned with the strategic goals. The official due date is June 2, and this list of indicators will be included in a PMP data book should be available by the June 2 deadline. There is still some uncertainty about which variables will be included in the primary list and some questions about what might be part of the context indicators. Council members expressed interest in having a few more useful indicators for the campuses that can be posted on the website even if not with the PMP data.

Every other summer, each campus will get a formal review for the PMP and a research profile for the institutions being reviewed. This summer there will not be one because of the chancellor's health concerns. This will start the following year. Campus will get the primary metrics every year, but the research profiles are not every year.

OIRA Central is trying to move into more qualitative information and not just figures. An example would be information about the development of fully online programs, where data may not be available.

Next Council Meeting:

IRA Retreat – Friday, June 9th, 2017