

**CDR Liaison/Institutional Researchers Meeting
November 18, 2009**

Summary

Accountability—Institutional Reports

The group was updated on the changes to the Institutional Accountability reports. Last year, the System Accountability report was revised to align with the Growth Agenda Goals and Core Strategies. In spring/summer 2009, a working group revised the Institutional Accountability templates to better align with the Growth Agenda. The institutional reports will also be professionally graphically designed to mirror the look of the system report.

There was some discussion on the use of the institutional reports externally and as “sister-pieces” to the system report. Overall, the institutional reports have been well-received and widely-distributed to external stakeholders including legislators and the business community. Although available on-line, the group felt that hard copies were useful, especially with professionally-designed copies accompanying the system report.

The timeline to review and finalize content for this year’s institutional reports is between December 7 and January 11. There was some concern about the need to have Chancellors review/sign-off on data/text which are either not currently available or are preliminary and subject to change. Currently, Accountability is on the Board of Regents agenda for April 2010.

The status update on the front-page will be provided by the institutions and will not be a System Administration evaluation of status. The front-page is being redesigned to better accommodate the status information.

Accountability—Partnership Data

Partnership data will be collected to address, in-part, one of the seven core strategies of the Growth Agenda—Collaborations. There is currently a gap in this area of the system accountability report. A small working group convened over the summer which resulted in the mid-October request of partnership data for inclusion in this year’s accountability reports. The due date is December 7. The request was shared with the Provosts at their November meeting and well-supported. Collecting/reporting of partnership information will provide a fuller picture and understanding in the area of collaborations. The collection of this information will not be immediately complete; the data collection progress will be incremental.

Non-Wisconsin partnership information is encouraged and the system report will include those as well (although the section currently refers to Wisconsin Partnerships). Some institutions reported difficulties collecting the data. Others reported that similar information needed to be collected as a part of their Higher Learning Commission self study.

OPAR will conduct a follow-up review of the partnership data collection in the spring to see if there are changes that will help make next year’s data collection easier.

Accountability—Surveys

Per prior emails, the required surveys for accountability will be on a three-year cycle.

- 2009-10 Learning Outcomes
- 2010-11 NSSE (2011)
- 2011-12 TBD
- 2012-13 Learning Outcomes (repeat cycle)

Although some institutions are not doing learning outcomes until 2010-11 (due to gear-up issues with selecting an assessment tool), they are expected to be on-cycle for doing learning outcomes in 2012-13.

Accountability—VSA

An updated College Portrait will be available in January 2010. Work with the NSC on the success and progress rates is underway. The goal is to have VSA metrics match those in the Institutional Accountability Reports. Institutions are asked to have all three reports for each cohort (total of six files) put into NetStorage by November 24. System staff will use the detailed reports to generate the overall system rates.

Growth Agenda—Educational Attainment

Sharon Wilhelm gave a condensed version of a PowerPoint presentation that she and President Reilly have previously given to various groups (e.g., Chancellors, Provosts, CBO's). (See agenda attachment.) The presentation addresses the Growth Agenda—Grow People goal. It also reflects President Obama's goal of increasing the Educational Attainment of the nation. Specific impact points and populations of opportunity were highlighted. Senior System administrators are having internal conversations with campus leadership to determine their capacity to contribute to increasing degree production.

Preliminary Enrollment Reporting

Due to increased pressure for earlier enrollment numbers, this year a request for first-day enrollments went out in addition to the standard census date estimates. This interest is not expected to subside in 2010. OPAR is grateful for the timely responses to both the first-day and census-day enrollment requests and asks institutions to be prepared for similar requests next year.

Thanks also to the priority put on cleaning the 6th week CDR files, preliminary enrollment reports are currently available on the OPAR website. The preliminary enrollment reports are intended to be responsive to requests for the most typical data needs and are a subset of the standard final reports.

CDR Updates—Fall Processing

The group was thanked for working on priority fall data elements this year, as has been the case in prior years. The new data element, first generation student, was submitted by most campuses on the fall CDR data. The campuses were reminded to continue working on their summer and fall edits.

CDR Updates—Potential Changes

A draft of a data element description was shared for the Spouse or Child of a Veteran. This data element may be added to the 6th week CDR in Fall 2010.

A question may be added to the UW System application for admission to find out if the applicant is a Wisconsin Covenant student. This data may be collected on MAAD. In the future, a data element may be added to the 6th week CDR to identify Wisconsin Covenant scholars and an aid type may be added to the Financial Aid CDR to collect data on students who receive a Wisconsin Covenant Grant.

A proposal is being developed to request that the UW System application be modified to allow a Sex other than Male or Female. This might affect campus data collection and MAAD/CDR data in the future.

CDR Updates—Campus Practice Inquiry

Responses to campus practice on collecting/storing certificates, non-credit activity, and student disability information was disseminated. About half of UW institutions have data available on certificates granted. However, none have the length of the certificate program. Length of program may be of interest; the federal categories include certificates below the baccalaureate level (less than 1 year, 1 year but less than 2-years, 2 but less than 4 years), post-baccalaureate, and post-masters.

None of the UW institutions currently collect non-credit course enrollments on their central SIS. There has been continued inquiry about the availability of non-credit (continuing ed.) activity internally and externally/nationally.

Only a couple of institutions indicated that information on student disability is stored on their SIS. Most records are kept in separate databases.

Courses longer than the number of weeks in the semester and courses that cross terms were also reviewed. Many campuses have some of each type of activity - mostly student teaching and medical/allied health for the longer than term length. Courses crossing terms seem to be addressed by business practices assigning the activity to a term.

Managing Implementations by Leveraging Existing Resources (MILER) Interfaces – Current Status/Future Plans

Brian Busby, program manager of MILER, briefed the group on the past, present, and future of MILER (PowerPoint is attached to the agenda). Over the years, MILER has transitioned from a large staff with technical and functional expertise to a smaller staff, with irregular workload demands. Principles that MILER seeks to operate under in the future include:

- Use vendor-provided functionality (since PeopleSoft Campus Solutions has matured).
- Only build/support interfaces that are “common” (not building interfaces that only a handful of campuses use)
- Stay current with technology
- Interfaces owned by functional user groups (users decide how data should be recorded in common among institutions)

Custom interfaces that may be replaced with vendor-provided functionality:

- Roster and eGrading interfaces to Learn@UW
- IAA – Identity and access management
- 1098T – student tax information

- General ledger interface (GL) – may be able to use PeopleSoft functionality, but some campuses do cash-based vs. accrual-based accounting.
- FirstLogic – address verification and standardization product – just replaced with Runner Technologies.
- EPCS – modernizing underlying technology. (PeopleSoft is increasing functionality that brings app data in more easily.)
- CDR/MAAD/TIS

MILER would support any functional team with a technical analyst. UW-Milwaukee is working with UW System to put on a road show on Business Intelligence.

Gail and Brian will get together with some other CDR/IR volunteers to develop a plan on how to move forward with the CDR interfaces. Volunteers included: Meridith Wentz (STO), Mark Clements (PLT), Rhonda Kimmel (PKS), Clare Huhn (MSN), and David Hill (UWSA).

Race/Ethnicity Reporting

- OPAR’s current reporting practices regarding race/ethnicity were reviewed. Two or more races currently include anyone who picked any two or more categories (exception: Southeast Asian/Other Asian combo is reported as Southeast Asian).
- For IPEDS, anyone who indicates Hispanic/Latino is reported in that category (following IPEDS reporting guidelines).
- This year, the format on the UW System application changed to meet IPEDS guidelines, i.e., Hispanic/Latino is a separate question from race.
- Questions:
 - Should OPAR change to follow the IPEDS reporting guidelines on reporting Hispanic/Latinos for its internal reporting? (Most institutions said yes.)
 - Should OPAR report unknowns separately from whites? (All institutions said yes.)
 - Should undocumented students be considered resident aliens or nonresident aliens for purposes of federal race/ethnicity reporting? (Most institutions favored grouping undocumented students separately from nonresident aliens based on student service issues and different student experiences.)
- Other suggestions:
 - Students of color subtotal should be included on all reports.
 - Could include a breakout of Hispanic/Latino only and Hispanic with some other race.

Credits to Degree/Time to Degree

Progress has been made on credits to degree reports. OPAR will share sample reports during the winter.

IPEDS/HEOA Update

- In response to the one of several HEOA requirements on financial aid net price, OPAR has requested Financial Aid Officers to send information on students living arrangements, from the ISER record, to be matched to Financial Aid CDR. IPEDS requires this information to be reported in Spring 2010 for three years of financial aid recipients. Next year, living arrangement status will be integrated into the Financial Aid CDR.
- No other significant changes to IPEDS are required for the 2009-10 reporting year.

- NCES has released a financial aid calculator template/application for institutions to use in response to another HEOA requirement on financial aid net price. The VSA plans to release a new version of its calculator (in January) that will comply with the new HEOA requirements. Institutions may develop their own calculator as well which address, at a minimum, the requirements. Email correspondence has been forwarded from both NCES and VSA.
- UWSA is in the process of creating a web site as a clearinghouse for HEOA requirements and information as requested by the campuses during a system-wide teleconference. Campuses have been asked to designate a campus point of contact/coordinator for responding to questions and implementing requirements. A list of the campus contacts was emailed subsequent to the CDR meeting.

CIP 2010 Changes

- CIP 2010 is available now; the new CIP codes will be required in IPEDS Degrees and Fall Enrollments surveys in fall 2010. OPAR proposed sharing information on majors for which CIP codes may change in March/April 2010. Most CIPs will not change, but there are many new CIPs that may fit specialized programs better than the old CIP 2000 classification. CIP 2010 includes approximately 354 new codes; 47 deleted; 116 moved; 1600 no substantial change.
- Financial Aid Offices may want to be aware of CIP changes prior to awarding of financial aid for 2010-11 as CIP codes are used to identify SMART grant-eligible students. OPAR will share the SMART grant eligible CIPs when they have been released by the Dept. of Ed.
- Institutions can look at CIP changes on the IPEDS web site: <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/>

Round Robin

- How do fundamental changes in UDDS structure affect IR work? Institutions are going from six-digit UDDS to 10-digit to include fund number, and other funding strings.
- VSA Learning Outcomes testing – campuses discussed challenges in getting students to participate.
- Madison has data to share on outcomes for AP takers – These students did as well as or better than other students in subsequent coursework.