

IR Council Meeting

Wednesday March 16, 2005

Members Present:

Rob Alford (PC), Mary Day (CG), Georgia Gudykunst (DO), Linda Hawbaker (DO), Linda Hughes (SC), Damita Kaloostian (PC), Ajit Kelkar (DO), Beth Hunt Larson (MCC), Paul Marsh (PV), Suzanne Martin (HCIES), Nancy Osborne (DO), Tracy Salter (DO), Donna Silber (DO), Jeff Simonson (SM), John Snelling (EM), Sue Starrfield (SM), David Sweeley (Rio), René Willekens (EM), Patience Akpan-Obong (DO), recording.

Meeting convened at 9:02 a.m.

Agenda Items

Brio Tips (handout)

-- Tracy Salter

Tracy talked about three Brio functions: Different views of a table, collapsing concurrent sections and working with Ftse_Details. A table can be viewed in three different ways: columns in alphabetical order, detail view and icon view. Each has its advantages and disadvantages. Collapsing concurrent sections can be used to calculate combined enrollment of a major course and all its minors. Ftse_Details is helpful when reporting the amount of FTSE with a breakdown by a field residing in another table.

Excel Tips

-- Nancy Osborne

Nancy discussed the possibility of giving a presentation on tricks and tips in Excel at April's meeting. She asked people who are good with Excel and/or have found some ways of accomplishing particular tasks in Excel to send information to her for preparing for the presentation.

Request for faculty grades

-- Georgia Gudykunst

Georgia told members about a request for faculty grades that an external agent has asked from MCCCCD. The information will include grades given to students by all instructors in their courses and sections. Students' identifying information will be removed. The legal department has cleared the request but there are some issues that need to be addressed.

First, it is yet to be decided what format the information will take and how to assess the cost of production. Secondly, should the information be made available on MCCCCD website? If this happens, Maricopa students will have free access rather than pay for it somewhere else.

Georgia said the next step in the process of granting this request is to convene a meeting where these issues can be discussed. She drew attention to the likelihood that there will be more such requests for public records in the future. This therefore raises the need to set up some mechanisms for responding to them. Meanwhile, requests and other inquiries should be referred to the legal department.

9010 Report (handouts)

-- Georgia Gudykunst

Georgia distributed draft copies of the 9010 report which was requested by the Faculty Executive Council (FEC). The report has already gone to college presidents. The 9010 report is calculated using total Day FTTE. She asked for feedback. The report generated some discussion especially about the formula for calculating the faculty needs of each college.

Georgia passed out a comparison of Day FTTE using Health *and* Occupational prefixes versus Health *as* Occupational prefixes. She asked members to take it back and share with their colleges. The matter will be discussed further at the April meeting.

IPEDS update (handouts)

-- Donna Silber

Donna announced that she was in the process of compiling 45th Day – and currently working on Fall Staff. She gave each college its completed Salaries report. She also passed out a sheet for IR Council members to write down the names of their college Dual Enrollment Coordinators.

IPEDS Unit ID Proposed Changes (handouts)

-- Donna Silber

Donna gave a presentation on the new IPEDS Unit Record (UR) system which may replace current institutional summary student data. Unit Records are currently provided by institutions for some categories of students especially those receiving financial aid. But the new UR system will be a kind of holding area for the storage of demographic, enrollment, and other data that institutions keep about their students. In this new system, students will not have the option not to provide the information.

The new system, according to IPEDS, will help to track students in all their activities -- persistence, retention, transfer, co-enrollment, and graduation rates for full-time and part-time students. A discussion followed Donna's presentation as members raised some important questions:

1. The new system will require students' SSN but by law, Maricopa is not required to collect SSN from students if they don't want to give, unless they are collecting SFA. Also, what happens to international students who do not have SSN?
2. The requirement for gender and ethnicity may be a violation of FERPA. Besides, how does one resolve the fact that gender and ethnicity can shift from term to

- term? For instance, multiracial students are known to change their ethnicity depending on what they feel comfortable with at any given time. Will students be notified that their unit records will be sent to the government?
3. The timeline (field test during IPEDS 2006-07 collection and full scale UR starting in 2007-08) is too “ambitious.”
 4. The new system will be an “incredible invasion of privacy” since it is non-voluntary. And this becomes important at a time of heightened awareness of security and privacy issues.
 5. It is not yet clear how the institutions will benefit from the new system.

Donna said that there are two hurdles before the NCES can implement the new system. First, it has to be mandated by Congress through a re-authorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA). This will only cover the field testing. Before full-scale implementation can begin, additional appropriations will be needed.

The District I.E. Office staff will attend a web-based seminar on April 5 where there will be discussions on the proposed system. There will be people arguing from perspectives other than IPEDS’. Tracy suggested that students should be notified about the proposed new system so that they can lobby against it.

Change Control Board – issues (handouts)

-- Tracy Salter

Tracy presented a review of the Change Board meeting held on March 1 in the District Office. The handout contained 29 items that are likely to change in the new system. At the Change Board meeting, there were suggestions on how to deal with some of these items. Tracy presented the remaining items that the Change Board didn’t get a chance to review. Members approved proposed actions/decisions while offering suggestions.

IR Retreat in Spring

-- René Willekens

A tentative date, May 6, was agreed on for the spring IR retreat in René’s cabin. There will be further discussion about it at the April meeting.

Other updates:

-- Georgia Gudykunst

Georgia announced the upcoming room re-location by some members of the I.E. Office: Some staff will move up to the fifth floor in the District Office while another department will move into the I.E. Office on the third floor.

Adjournment: 12:13 p.m.

Next meeting: April 20, 2005