



IR Council Meeting

Wednesday December 14, 2005

Present:

Amber Daines (GC), Laurie Cohen (SC), Mary Day (CG), Georgia Gudykunst (DO), Linda Hawbaker (DO), Linda Hughes (SC), Damita Kaloostian (PC), Sandy Hill (EMCC), Beth Hunt Larson (MCC), Paul Marsh (PV), Tracy Salter (DO), Christina Santacruz (MC), Donna Silber (DO), Jeff Simonson (SM), John Snelling (EM), Susan Starrfield (SMCC), Crystal Theaker (CG), René Willekens (EM), Jim Waugh (GC), Nancy Osborne (DO), recording.

Colleges not represented: GWCC, RSC

Meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Items

ASSIST District-wide Queries (handout)

--Nancy Osborne

Nancy and Tracy developed a process for running district-wide enrollment and degrees queries in Assist that can be used for comparison data by the colleges. Currently there are three queries that were created by Tracy Salter: IR Enrollment-dist.bqy, IR annual-enrollment-dist.bqy, IR Degrees-dist.bqy. Nancy will begin a process of running each of these queries twice during each year, each October to create an 'Interim' version of the most recent fall term and fiscal year data; then again each late March after the community college data has been loaded to Assist to get 'final' numbers. The results of these queries can be accessed by college researchers on the X:\ drive under IR Council\ASSIST\ASSIST Queries\District Queries. The queries will be named with 'interim' or 'final' in the query name to enable people to differentiate them. It is important that college researchers use these versions of data whenever they publish MCCCCD comparison data so the same numbers will be published consistently.

Nancy asked for feedback on other district-wide ASSIST queries that the MCCCCD IE office should create to provide valuable comparative data for the colleges. Beth suggested to expand the NCCBP persistence query (which is run against Assist) to enable persistence to be calculated by CC degree earned and/or CIP code of CC degree earned. Creation of a query to determine subsequent course success for English, math and reading was re-requested.

See handout in X:\ IR Council\ASSIST\ASSIST Queries\Assist Query Schedule.doc for additional information.

The IR Council would like the District IE office to re-open the issue of getting college IR's MCCCCD "district-wide data access" to ASSIST. This had been put on the back-burner due to complications with creating a data access agreement that would cover this and w/ASSIST meeting schedules.

Distance Learning Definition (handout)

--Georgia Gudykunst

The IR Council was recently asked to provide distance learning and hybrid enrollment data for their colleges. The group used the NCCBP definition of distance learning for the request. However, there remain issues as to the validity of the data in SIS as well as how the definition for distance and hybrid. College researchers reported that there is growing interest in enrollment data for the various instructional modes. The information that can be currently generated is not as accurate as it could be because of SIS data quality, bad or incomplete. Some thoughts/ideas were brought up:

- A course that has only 1 physical meeting (an orientation), but is otherwise self-paced or distance should not be considered 'hybrid'. (René)
- According to the NCCBP definition of 'distance learning', OEOE courses would not be considered distance learning. (René)
- Current SIS data rule is that 'FLEX' will be coded into the room field for hybrid courses. There is considerable doubt that hybrid courses are identified and coded consistently. (Amber)
- Tracy provided a handout of the current conversion rules for the instructional mode field in RDS (*X:\IR Council\IR Council\Meeting Minutes\Instruction Mode Assignments_June 2004.xls*). A question was raised about whether all the colleges were defining the different instructional modes in the same way. Linda and Georgia volunteered to follow-up with the V.P.'s of Instruction and any other groups to ensure that standard definitions are used across the district, and that processes are in place to ensure that each course entered into the schedule is coded appropriately.
- Does it really makes sense to include the '> six students enrolled' in a course as a criteria for identifying it as hybrid or distance. (Laurie)
- Mary Day asked Georgia to ensure that DO execs send e-mail to CEC whenever there is college-level data going to ACCA for a legislative request. Otherwise, they can be caught by surprise if they are questioned about it.
- The issue of funding courses that are not transferable or part of a degree/certificate program will likely come up during the legislative session. Linda is working with the curriculum office to ensure that courses can be designated at the course level in the new SIS. (Linda IE)
- Decision: The group consensus was that it is valuable to follow a standard to enable national comparison (the '>6' criteria comes from the NCCBP definition) and to define in the same way.

DSS Hands-on Training (handout)

--Linda Hawbaker

Linda walked the group through several exercises generating reports from DSS including: top FTSE-generating courses, etc. See training handouts at the DSS website

<http://www.maricopa.edu/its/dss/>

Next meeting: January 18th, 2005

Please send any agenda items to Mary or Georgia. Consider sharing a project that your office has been working on.