

CDR Liaisons/Institutional Researchers Meeting

Van Hise Hall, Room 1820

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

9:30-3:00

SUMMARY

1. Welcome/Introductions
2. CDR Guidelines

Information received from CDR Liaisons about the amount of activity prior to (withdrawals) and after (late registrants) the date of record was discussed. For half of the campuses that responded, headcount activity captured by withdrawals nearly equaled the headcount activity missed due to late registrants. For the other half, withdrawals prior to the date of record greatly outweighed late registrants after the date of record. Only one respondent had substantially more late registrants than withdrawals.

Similarly, the group discussed the terms of “No shows” and “Financial Commitment” per the CDR guidelines and whether they were current business practices and/or relevant concepts. Several institutions indicated that “no show” is an outdated concept and that registration implies a “financial commitment”. In contrast, other institutions indicated that their practices included tracking down no-shows, administrative drops, attendance verifications, and similar activities along the guidelines and that these remained relevant concepts.

In addition, CDR guidelines provide for capturing late starting credit outreach provided by UW-Extension or other late-starting “off-campus” courses. The language sets a 6th week census date for such late starting activity. Campuses were encouraged to respond regarding their campus practice with respect to the non-UW-Extension off-campus courses that may be captured through the 6th week of instruction.

Campus practice regarding withdrawals from the university was further discussed. MILER will send to the CDR/IR group (via OPAR) the names of the fields in the interface specific to the date of record and a written description of the logic related to the courses captured for students who withdraw before the date of record. Some institutions indicated that students are not allowed to withdraw from all courses without administrative consent, therefore, leaving only one course before final withdrawal from the university. This may be an inadvertent consequence relating to campus practice and will be further investigated.

The purpose, function, and use of the CDR guidelines were briefly discussed. Campuses were asked to provide feedback on the best vehicle to relate information on CDR submission requirements and the reporting practices.

3. Race/Ethnic Categories – Data Collection and Reporting

OPAR presented a handout on the one-question model for the UW System application, the associated MAAD CDR data element changes, and the way OPAR would report an unduplicated headcount. The new race/ethnicity question will be available for students applying to the UW for fall 2008. A handout was also presented on the proposed data table structure for storing different race/ethnicities on OPAR’s data warehouse. The Race/Ethnicity ID Technical Implementation

Group and its work were reviewed. On the issues list: (1) the PeopleSoft “primary” race/ethnicity field and (2) the “Other Race” text field. The technical implementation group will develop recommendations over the next few weeks which would be shared with all institutions. OPAR will inquire about progress in this area on the HR side and communicate it via the CDR/IR email lists.

4. CDR Updates

MAAD and CDR changes related to student, curricular, and financial aid data were reviewed.

A proposal was made to form a working group to consider aligning CDR and PeopleSoft interface edits to improve the data editing process.

It was suggested that OPAR could help make it easier to report preliminary enrollment figures, possibly by expanding standard reports available in CEUS.

5. New Counting Metric

A “live” presentation showing the changes to the Student Statistics website was given. Student Statistics reports are now based on the “new counting metric”. The website also includes selected reports based on the “old counting metric.” University staff needing an “old counting metric” report not available on the OPAR website can contact OPAR.

Campuses were reminded of the modifications to the retention and graduation reports, which were sent to CDR liaisons in February. Campuses indicated they would like to receive Excel versions of the reports as well as PDFs in the future.

Next year’s retention and graduation reports will use the new counting metric: the “total minus study away” population for the cohort and the “total with study away” population for the determination of retained. Also, the plan is to begin making use of Campus Student Id (data element #2012) as well as Student SSN (data element #2010) for identifying retained and graduated students at the same institution where started. The retention view on the cdr3 data warehouse, v_retgrad_ug_year, will also be updated accordingly. Prior to this change, sample retention and graduation reports incorporating the new counting metric will be distributed to CDR liaisons for review.

6. IAIS Update and Walkthrough

A presentation and demonstration of the Instructional Analysis Information System (IAIS) included how to register for access and an overview of the reports available on instructional costs and workload. There were several questions or requests following this presentation/demo. One question was whether functionality could be added to the IAIS application to allow exporting reports to Excel. Since the software does not have this capability, the recommendation was to use the summary tables where the data can be accessed and manipulated directly (as well as exported to Excel or other software). Another question was how IAIS handles courses without a valid instructor ID. Course sections without a valid instructor ID are categorized along with those taught by academic staff. OPAR encourages institutions to provide the instructor ID for each course section as required by the curricular submission guidelines.

Per campus recommendation, the IAIS documentation for each report type will be available on OPAR's website. This will provide access for non-users and the ability to forward or attach the documentation to interested parties.

Other updates included were that the fall 2006 data is now available in the IAIS system, minor revisions to past years of IAIS data have been made, and an updated version of the application software should be downloaded and installed. An email providing instructions for download will be sent to registered users.

7. Diversity Efforts

- Inclusivity Initiative - Climate Study
- Plan 2008/Equity Scorecard
- Precollege

Lisa Beckstrand of the UW System Office of Academic and Student Services briefed the group on the Inclusivity Initiative Climate Study. The UWSA website will be updated in the near future with information: <http://www.uwsa.edu/acss/LGBTQ/>

Campuses participating in the Equity Scorecard project updated the group.

A progress report on Plan 2008 will be presented to the UW System Board of Regents at their June 2007 meeting. The report contains a variety of data from the CDR. A draft of the report was circulated.

OPAR described the Precollege Info Memo, which is being developed, and the related investigation of the feasibility of a systemwide National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) Student Tracker license.

8. Campus Round Robin on Projects/Analyses

CDR Liaisons and Institutional Researchers from each UW institution updated the group on campus projects and analyses.

9. ACT Data Sharing

ACT would like to enter into a data sharing agreement with OPAR. OPAR would like to start a discussion about how such an agreement might work. Contact David Blough for more information on this issue.

10. Transfer Student Reports

OPAR provided an update on the transfer student reports. A Transfer Student Info Memo will replace the former JACAP I report and focus more broadly on transfer students from all sectors. In addition to the five WTCS programs previously included in the Transfer Program Assessment Report (JACAP II), three WTCS programs would be added this year. They are accounting, engineering technology, and liberal arts.

11. Accountability

The 2007 ACT Alumni Outcomes survey will be conducted this summer for inclusion in the 2007-08 edition of *Achieving Excellence*. The survey is being sampled at the system level for reasons of increased cost. UW-Eau Claire and UW-Stout elected to oversample for institution-level results.

NSSE contacts have been requested from the Provosts for the 2008 NSSE. Campuses should wait until after the teleconference of NSSE contacts to register for the 2008 NSSE. UWSA will pay for the cost of basic participation in the 2008 NSSE and in the 2008 CCSSE. The suggestion was made to not participate in NSSE experimental questions because they add to the length of the survey; this suggestion will be conveyed to the NSSE contacts.

OPAR discussed the possibility of using the LSAT in the systemwide accountability report. OPAR is planning to formally request a special report from LSAC of this information.

OPAR reported that the current version of *Achieving Excellence* is doing well and there are no plans to reexamine the overall structure and content of the report. But, the report will continue to be tweaked. The next edition will likely include additional measures and goals related to diversity.

12. IPEDS Update

A handout of the proposed IPEDS changes for 2007-08 was provided to the group. These items should be released soon in the Federal Register.

The group was reminded that, each year, institutions have the option to revise their peer comparison groups used in the IPEDS Executive Peer Tool and for the Data Feedback Reports. An email will be sent out with a specific request.

Campuses are encouraged to provide any questions or concerns regarding IPEDS or national data policy issues to OPAR, including those related to publications, so that OPAR can represent those concerns to NCES and AIR committees.

13. UW System Academic Affairs Planning

OPAR described the current strategic planning process occurring in the UWSA Office of Academic Affairs. As part of that planning, the group was asked for feedback on the usefulness of the CDR/IR meetings. Several people felt the meetings should remain in Madison and found the meetings to be very useful. It made sense to them that OPAR plan the agendas. They liked the campus roundtable included at this meeting.