NEAIR

33RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 4 – 7, 2006, SHERATON SOCIETY HILL, PHILADELPHIA, PA

SOARING TO EXCELLENCE

NEAIR ★ PHILADELPHIA ★ 2006

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NEAIR
North East Association for Institutional Research

Welcome to Philadelphia!

Welcome to the 33rd annual NEAIR Conference!

Welcome to the Sheraton Society Hill!

This year, NEAIR's conference is being held in one of the most historic square miles in the United States. As early as the 1680's some of the most influential people in Philadelphia history lived on the land currently occupied by the Sheraton Society Hill. You will see that many of the meeting rooms are named after these prominent people. In addition, prior to building the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, an archaeological dig was conducted and some of the relics from the past 200 years are on display in the hotel. Also, Independence National Historical Park which houses Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell is located right around the corner from the conference hotel.

This year's conference theme, however, is not historical in nature but more of a future-facing quest for excellence as we soar forward. **Nancy Ludwig**, our Program Chair, and **Ellen Peters**, Associate Program Chair, have assembled a very strong program of presenters and topics that is sure to be informative and thought provoking starting with our Keynote Speakers: Jamie Merisotis, President of the Institute for Higher Education Policy and Patricia McGuire, President of Trinity University. The program will be wrapping up with a plenary session featuring three of NEAIR's illustrious past presidents (Michelle Appel, Michael Middaugh and Dawn Terkla).

Allison Walters, our Local Arrangements Chair, has been working to make your visit to Philadelphia and the Conference a pleasant and memorable event. On Saturday evening we will be hosting a Welcome Reception--"A Taste of Philly" where attendees will have the ability to meet up with old friends, make new friends, as well as join dinner groups, if desired. Immediately following the Opening Plenary Session on Sunday evening there will be another chance to socialize with colleagues at the reception and banquet that follow. This year's Poster Session will be held during "Data With A Twist", in the Hamilton Room on Monday evening, and allows for presentations in a more informal and interactive setting.

Cindy Clarke, this year's Pre-Conference Workshop Coordinator, has arranged for a wide variety of workshop offerings to enhance your professional development endeavors and **Tim Walsh**, our Vendor Coordinator, has arranged for some of the widely used tools and Higher Ed providers to be present and available for you to become more familiar with.

All-in-all, we are delighted that you are here, joining NEAIR in what we hope will be a meaningful and pleasant few days. If you can meet some new colleagues; take away a new idea; gain a deeper understanding of something; stay abreast of current issues or enjoy the excitement of helping others do so---then we have succeeded! Let us know your thoughts by filling out the evaluation sheets that will be available.

Sincerely,

Marge Wiseman, NEAIR President

Saturday, November 4, 2006

Conference Registration	*12:30 - 5:30 PM* Society Hill Lobby
Newcomers to Institutional Research (Part I) This workshop is designed for new practitioners and addresses key components of IR including: defining critical issues; identifying sources of data; developing standard institutional information/reports; and conducting effective assessment/evaluation activities. This workshop will be taught by persons representing three segments of higher education (public, private, community college). Workshop	*1:00 - 4:00 PM* Cook **Michelle Appel** University of Maryland, College Park **James Trainer** Villanova University **Janet Nickels** Carroll Community College
A Practical Approach to Developing an Outcomes Assessment Plan (Part I) This workshop introduces participants to outcomes assessment at the institutional, program and course levels. Expected learning outcomes include: identifying and describing assessment concepts and terms, and applying assessment concepts to real situations. Specific assessment instruments and effective strategies for engaging and integrating outcomes assessment will also be discussed. Workshop	*1:00 - 4:00 PM* Flower **Mitchell Nesler** SUNY-Empire State College **Gayle Fink** University System of Maryland
Using MS Access for a Data Clean up, Recoding, and Summarization: A Delaware Study Test Case Learn how to use basic Access tools (Tables, Queries, etc.) to identify and correct data, perform mass recoding of records, and summarize detail data as needed. Preparation of data for the Delaware Study (National Study of Instructional Costs and Productivity) will be used as a test case. The objective of this computer workshop is to expand participants' MS Access skill set, specifically as a tool for data clean up and summarization. Workshop	*1:00 - 4:00 PM* Shippen **Laura Uerling** Stonehill College
Data 101 This basic data analysis course will cover descriptive statistics (mean, mode, median, variation, and standard deviation as well as the normal curve), data cleaning, and the use and misuse of descriptive statistics. Excel and SPSS output will be examined. This computer workshop will be useful for anyone without a statistics background or someone who needs a refresher on the basics of data analysis. Workshop	*1:00 - 4:00 PM* Whitpen **Linda Mallory** U.S. Naval Academy
Mentor-Mentee Program Meeting Mentor Program Meeting	*4:00 - 5:00 PM* Reynolds

"Taste of Philly" Welcome Reception Welcome Reception	*5:00 - 6:30 PM* Hamilton Room

Saturday Evening Dinner Groups ~ 6:30 PM
(Sign up at Conference Registration Table)

Sunday, November 5, 2006

Conference Registration	*8:00 – 5:00 PM* Society Hill Ballroom Foyer

Newcomers to Institutional Research (Part II) This workshop is designed for new practitioners and addresses key components of IR including: defining critical issues; identifying sources of data; developing standard institutional information/reports; and conducting effective assessment/evaluation activities. This workshop will be taught by persons representing three segments of higher education (public, private, community college). Workshop	*9:00 AM - 12:00 PM* Cook **Michelle Appel** University of Maryland, College Park **James Trainer** Villanova University **Janet Nickels** Carroll Community College
Introduction to Strategic Enrollment Management (Part I) "Strategic Enrollment Management" (SEM) refers to coordinated efforts to recruit, enroll, and retain students. How do institutions achieve optimal enrollments and generate sufficient fee revenues, while fulfilling their mission, goals, and values? This is a basic to intermediate overview of SEM concepts, strategies, modeling techniques, and data tools as they relate to admissions and enrollment planning. Workshop	*9:00 AM - 12:00 PM* E1 **James Fergerson** Bates College
A Practical Approach to Developing an Outcomes Assessment Plan (Part II) This workshop introduces participants to outcomes assessment at the institutional, program and course levels. Expected learning outcomes include: identifying and describing assessment concepts and terms, and applying assessment concepts to real situations. Specific assessment instruments and effective strategies for engaging and integrating outcomes assessment will also be discussed. Workshop	*9:00 AM - 12:00 PM* Flower **Mitchell Nesler** SUNY-Empire State College **Gayle Fink** University System of Maryland

Using GIS in IR: A Different Way to Look at Data

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Frampton

Go beyond the traditional tables and graphs, and visualize your IR data geographically! This computer workshop will demonstrate how data can be analyzed with mapping software (ArcView). Participants will learn how to create meaningful maps using IR data.

Kim Bridgeo
Bentley College

Brock Tibert
Bentley College

Workshop

Undertaking Alumni Studies

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Reynolds

This half-day workshop examines the dual purposes of alumni research—to demonstrate institutional effectiveness and to enhance alumni giving. The workshop describes the value of alumni studies; reviews alumni outcomes identified in various studies; evaluates locally designed versus existing published surveys; and shares ideas for enhancing institutional effectiveness and fund-raising.

J. Fredericks Volkwein
Pennsylvania State University

Vicki Baker
Pennsylvania State University

Workshop

Intermediate Statistics for Institutional Research

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Shippen

Intermediate concepts in statistics will be covered in a way that is useful in this half day computer workshop. The workshop will focus on applications of ANOVA, factor analysis, and regression analysis.

Mary Ann Coughlin
Springfield College

Workshop

Making Posters from PowerPoint

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Whitpen

Learn the simple techniques to create that large, full color poster from PowerPoint. Pointers on poster layout will be included such as format, font, and color. Bring a project you'd like to complete; there will be plenty of hands-on time to work with it under supervision. Printing not included.

Charlyn Fisher
York College of Pennsylvania

Workshop

Lunch ~ 12:00 – 1:30 PM
(On your own)

Vendors Exhibit Area opens ~ 1:00 – 5:00 PM ~ Society Hill Room
(Remains open through Monday)

What Hast Thou Wrought...Lately? A Colloquium for Experienced Practitioners

12:30 - 1:30 PM
E2

Michael Dooris
Pennsylvania State University

Michelle Appel
University of Maryland

James Trainer
Villanova University

How can IR and planning offices continue to offer contributions valued by our stakeholders? In this colloquium geared especially to practitioners with at least five years of experience, participants can share thoughts on emerging topics and creative approaches (beyond the usual reports) that other veterans might find useful and interesting. *(Please note there is no fee for the Colloquium and no pre-registration.)*

Colloquium

Qualitative Data Analysis

1:30 - 4:30 PM
Cook

Carol Trosset
Hampshire College

Institutional Researchers are increasingly asked to work with data gathered from survey comments and interviews. There are systematic methods for analyzing these data, but they are not widely understood. This workshop will demonstrate and teach basic qualitative analysis methods. Participants will work with several data sets to practice these skills.

Workshop

Introduction to Strategic Enrollment Management (Part II)

1:30 - 4:30 PM
E1

James Fergerson
Bates College

"Strategic Enrollment Management" (SEM) refers to coordinated efforts to recruit, enroll, and retain students. How do institutions achieve optimal enrollments and generate sufficient fee revenues, while fulfilling their mission, goals, and values? This is a basic to intermediate overview of SEM concepts, strategies, modeling techniques, and data tools as they relate to admissions and enrollment planning.

Workshop

The Theory and Practice of Focus Groups

1:30 - 4:30 PM
Flower

Rena Cheskis-Gold
Demographic Perspectives

In this workshop we will discuss the theory and practice of focus groups. Theory: we will address the appropriate usage and limitations of qualitative research and focus groups. Practice: creating a protocol, organizing and conducting the focus groups, and report-writing techniques. Participants will role-play being effective focus group leaders. Examples of successful focus group materials will be shared.

Workshop

IPEDS Tools for Newcomers

1:30 - 4:30 PM
Whitpen

This computer workshop will be an introduction to NCES/IPEDS data and the tools developed to access the data through the Peer Analysis System (PAS), the Executive Peer Tool (ExPT), the Data Feedback Report, and the College Opportunities Online (COOL). We will discuss different types of comparison groups and how to select them. Participants will have the opportunity to practice hands-on exercises.

Michael Duggan
Suffolk University

Workshop

Assessing General Education Outcomes

1:30 - 4:30 PM
Reynolds

This workshop will focus on defining general education and how to assess it. Upon completion, participants will be able to understand general education issues and challenges; summarize a two-pronged process that assesses GenEd at both the course and program levels; compare the GenEd outcomes recommended by the AAC&U with those at another institution of your choosing; and identify general education assessment methods, measures, and instruments.

J. Fredericks Volkwein
Pennsylvania State University

Alex Yin
Pennsylvania State University

Workshop

Intermediate IPEDS

1:30 - 4:30 PM
Frampton

This computer workshop is designed to build upon a practitioner's working knowledge of the Peer Analysis System (PAS) by discussing data concepts unique to PAS, and demonstrating various ways PAS can be used to respond to real life IR questions. In addition, participants will be introduced to the Data Set Cutting Tool and the IPEDS Data Analysis System Online Application (DASOL) and have time to try out these tools. This workshop is intended for individuals who are familiar with IPEDS surveys and who have some previous exposure to PAS.

Gayle Fink
University System of Maryland

Paula Hollis
University System of New Hampshire

Workshop

"Where Do I Start?"
Analyzing and Reporting on Survey Datasets

1:30 - 4:30 PM
Shippen

This computer workshop will help you get your bearings and chart a course through the maze of data generated by a survey. It will outline where to begin; when to use various statistical techniques; how to report your findings to different audiences; and discuss ethical considerations in survey research.

Julie Alig
Saint Anselm College

Workshop

Opening Plenary Session	*5:00 - 6:15 PM* Society Hill Ballroom
"Convergence: Trends Threatening College Opportunity in America" This presentation will review the diverse array of factors at the federal, state, and institutional levels that are likely to converge in the coming decade, and their potential negative impact on underserved populations. The presentation concludes with details of a proposed public-private partnership involving the federal government, states, colleges and universities, students and parents, and the private sector that is designed to counter the convergence of these trends. Mr. Merisotis is recognized as a leading authority on college and university financing, particularly student financial aid, and has published major studies and reports on topics ranging from higher education ranking systems to technology-based learning.	**Jamie Merisotis** President The Institute for Higher Education Policy
Plenary Session	

Reception ~ 6:15 – 7:15 PM ~ Hamilton Room

Banquet ~ 7:15 PM ~ Society Hill Ballroom

Continental Breakfast ~ 7:00 – 8:30 AM ~ Society Hill Ballroom

Consortium on Financing Higher Education Breakfast (by invitation only) A discussion of the COFHE research agenda with Consortium members. Special Interest Group	*7:00 - 8:00 AM* Whitpen **C. Tony Broh** COHFE
Banner Users Group Banner round table discussion. Special Interest Group	*7:45 - 8:30 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **Phyllis Fitzpatrick** Fairfield University **Peggye Cohen** George Washington University
CIRP Surveys Group Come have breakfast and have a chance to hear about what is new with the nation's oldest and largest study of higher education (CIRP Freshman Survey) and our follow-up surveys (YFCY and the CSS). New and experienced users welcome. Come with any and all questions. Special Interest Group	*7:45 - 8:30 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **John H. Pryor** Higher Education Research Institute, UCLA
SUNY-AIRPO State University of New York Association for Institutional Research and Planning Officers will gather for an informal discussion. Special Interest Group	*7:45 - 8:30 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **Mitchell Nesler** SUNY-Empire State College
FLAIR/WNYAIR Finger Lakes/Western New York Associations for Institutional Research members will gather for an informal meeting. Special Interest Group	*7:45 - 8:30 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **Pat Mizak** Canisius College
Catholic Higher Education Research Cooperative Catholic Higher Education Research Cooperative members will gather for an informal meeting. Special Interest Group	*7:45 - 8:30 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **Donald Gillespie** Fordham University **James Trainer** Villanova University

Conference Registration	*8:00 - 4:30 PM* Society Hill Ballroom Foyer

Monday Plenary Session **"Institutional Research in a Transforming Institution"** Many institutions today are undergoing transformation of their student body and curriculum. Dr. McGuire will discuss how good data and analysis play crucial roles in helping institutions through the change process, and in tracking institutional performance and assessment. Plenary Session	*9:00 - 10:30 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **Dr. Patricia McGuire** President Trinity University

Vendors Exhibit Area opens ~ 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM ~ Society Hill Ballroom

Posters on display for informal viewing ~ 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM ~ Hamilton Ballroom

Coffee Break ~ 10:30 – 10:45 AM ~ Foyer to Society Hill Ballroom

Monday, November 6, 2006 General Sessions

Remember that Vendor Showcases will run in 20 minute sessions throughout the day concurrent with contributed paper and workshare sessions.

<u>Vendor Showcase Schedule - Frampton Room</u>

Scantron Corporation ~ 10:45 - 11:05 AM

Collegiate learning Assessment ~ 11:15 - 11:35 AM

SPSS, Inc. ~ 11:45 - 12:05 AM

National Student Clearinghouse ~ 12:15 - 12:35 PM

Snap Surveys ~ 2:00 - 2:20 PM

Gravic, Inc. - Remarkable Products ~ 2:30 - 2:50 PM

Information Builders ~ 3:15 - 3:35 PM

iStrategy Solutions ~ 3:45 - 4:05 PM

WEAVEonline ~ 4:15 - 4:35 PM

Nuventive ~ 4:45 - 5:05 PM

Picture This!

Through the use of photography, students articulated their perceptions of the institution, especially as they relate to the physical environment and context in which learning takes place. This research project provided additional insights into and understanding of student perceptions through an alternative form of qualitative research. Discussion will include methodology, findings, and strengths and weaknesses of this type of qualitative research. This research project was funded by a grant from an AIR affiliate organization and was inspired by a presentation at the 2003 Tampa AIR Forum.

Workshare

10:45 - 11:35 AM
Cook

Janet Nickels
Carroll Community College

Jean Marriott
Carroll Community College

Assessing the Campus Environment for Diversity By a Consortium of Pennsylvania Colleges & Universities

As institutions of higher education are more frequently establishing strategic goals with respect to diversity, it becomes increasingly more important for institutions to assess the campus environment for diversity. The presenters will discuss a campus diversity survey used to assess attitudes, experiences and behaviors with regard to diversity.

Workshare

10:45 - 11:35 AM
E1

Joan McDonald
Wilkes University

Chad May
Cabrini College

Christopher Choncek
Point Park University

Marian Sherwood
Allegheny College

Gayle Funt
AICUP

Longitudial Research Using the CIRP Freshman Survey and the Your First College Year Survey

Results from the redesigned 2006 Your First College Year (YFCY) Survey will be presented using data from approximately 35,000 first-year students across the country. The benefit of longitudinal data collection using the CIRP Freshman Survey will be examined when looking at academic, social, and other important first-year issues.

Contributed Paper

10:45 - 11:35 AM
E2

John Pryor
Higher Education Research Institute, UCLA

Peeking Inside an Institution's Planning Toolbox

What can IR add to a planning toolbox? How to effectively plan for budgeting and resource allocation at the departmental level will be discussed. This session will demonstrate how the Delaware Study, Faculty Activity Study, and Budget Support Notebooks are utilized for academic program review and institutional planning decisions.

Workshare

10:45 - 11:35 AM
Flower

Heather Kelly
University of Delaware

Karen DeMonte
University of Delaware

Allison Walters
University of Delaware

Scantron Corporation

10:45 - 11:05 AM
Frampton

Rich Vesga
Scantron Corporation

Scantron has evolved into a leading technology solutions provider for the education, business and government markets, offering a full range of advanced software, hardware and service aimed at intelligence gathering, testing, assessment and systems maintenance. Class Climate helps corporate training departments, universities and other educational institutions perform fast and effective course evaluations in both paper and on-line formats.

Vendor Showcase

Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA)

11:15 - 11:35 AM
Frampton

James Padilla
Collegiate Learning Assessment

The CLA is an assessment tool for measuring institutional contributions to undergraduate student learning. The CLA presents measures that are performance-based, administered wholly online, and chart growth in critical thinking, analytic reasoning and written communication skills.

Vendor Showcase

An Examination of the IPEDS Editing Process

10:45 - 11:35 AM
Reynolds

Casey Tart
RTI International

James Isaac
RTI International

As IPEDS data are submitted, they are edited and flagged for further review when deemed appropriate. This presentation examines the editing process utilized, explores trends in edit errors and illustrates how this process is continuously evolving through the ongoing efforts of IPEDS administrators and the IPEDS data providers.

Contributed Paper

Library Assessment in the 21st Century

10:45 - 11:35 AM
Shippen

Diane M. Smith
Bunker Hill Community College

Historically, library assessment meant counting tangible resources, e.g. books and budget dollars. Today, libraries can demonstrate their contribution to students' learning. More than a repository, the modern college library plays a central role in higher education. This workshare describes the evolution of library assessment at a community college.

Workshare

Penn State's First-Year Seminar in Business: Integrating Student Transition with the World of Business

10:45 - 11:35 AM
Whitpen

Kyle Sweitzer
Pennsylvania State University

Vicki Baker
Pennsylvania State University

Penn State's Smeal College of Business recently added modules to its first-year seminar curriculum to simultaneously address current issues in business along with student transition. This workshare will highlight the findings from the first round of data regarding student development within the new modules in this business first-year seminar.

Workshare

Effective Uses of NSSE Data: Evaluating First-Year Student Success Initiatives

This research showcases a creative use of NSSE data in an evaluation of the university's First-Year Seminars and introduction to an Honors University Seminar. NSSE data were triangulated with course evaluations and institutional data to assess aspects of student engagement associated with these programs.

Contributed Paper

11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Cook

Constance Pierson
University of Maryland Baltimore County

Shannon Tinney
University of Maryland Baltimore County

Should a College President Collect Survey Data? Results of a President's Council Phone Survey

Strategic indicators in higher education are critical. These include feedback from constituency groups, including students. As a management development exercise, the president's council from a large public comprehensive college conducted a phone survey of student satisfaction. Results will be shared in this presentation.

Contributed Paper

11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
E1

Mitchell Nesler
SUNY-Empire State College

Julia Izykowski
SUNY-Empire State College

Considering Leaving Before They've Even Started: An Examination of Freshmen at Risk for Transfer

Most retention literature compares students who remain at an institution with those who leave. This paper extends the analysis by focusing on freshmen who leave in order to transfer to another institution. Using cluster analysis and logistic regression, subgroups are examined to determine variables contributing to different transfer rates.

Contributed Paper

11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
E2

Yiting Chang
Adelphi University

The Changing Demographics of Higher Education and Financial Aid Implications

This presentation will look at trends and projections of high school graduates through 2018 by gender and race as well as the implications for enrollment planning. Current enrollment patterns by type of institution will also be reviewed. In addition, the financial aid impact will also be discussed.

Workshare

11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Flower

Becky Brodigan
Middlebury College

SPSS, Inc.

This demonstration is specifically designed for members of student assessment offices, IT personnel and survey researchers who want to gain more insights faster from their survey data. Demonstration attendees will see SPSS' mrInterview, for authoring state-of-the-art web surveys and dependable data collection in a secure and centralized environment. The reporting application mrTables, a browser-based online reporting tool will be demonstrated as well.

Vendor Showcase

11:45 - 12:05 AM
Frampton

Joseph Beucher
SPSS, Inc.

National Student Clearinghouse

The National Student Clearinghouse is a not-for-profit organization operating nationwide and serving over 91 percent of American higher education and more than 2,800 colleges and universities. We are the preeminent provider of standardized and automated enrollment and degree verification services for colleges and universities. We also provide StudentTracker, an institutional research and management service that support studies examining the migratory patterns of students from high school through post-secondary education.

Vendor Showcase

12:15 - 12:35 PM
Frampton

Pam Gilligan
National Student Clearinghouse

MDs and PhDs, EdDs and MBAs: Comparing Graduate Program Prestige Ratings Across Professional School Disciplines

This study examines the variables that relate to the U.S. News reputational ratings of graduate schools in the five professional school disciplines of business, education, engineering, law, and medicine. The results are then examined to determine how the concept of prestige differs across the five disciplines.

Contributed Paper

11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Reynolds

Kyle Sweitzer
Pennsylvania State University

Predicting Course Outcomes Using CHAID Models

A CHAID model was developed to examine factors that would predict the course outcome of students in their first writing intensive English course. Criterions based on the results of the model are established so that student at risk for poor course performance can be given additional instruction.

Workshare

11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Shippen

Jimmy Jung
Baruch College (CUNY)

John Choonoo
Baruch College (CUNY)

Assessing Programs and Services for Under-Prepared Students

This presentation will describe three programs that have improved the delivery of services to students, particularly students needing developmental course work: (1) college-readiness programs; (2) first semester class choices; and (3) understanding issues faced by "struggling" students. Actual student outcomes data and the implications for each program will be discussed.

Workshare

11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Whitpen

David Nielsen
Manchester Community College

Luncheon and Business Meeting ~ 12:40 – 1:50 PM ~ Society Hill Ballroom

Challenging Opportunities for Institutional Researchers to Excel in Assessment

2:00 - 2:50 PM
Cook

Increased focus on assessment in accreditation offers challenging opportunities for institutional researchers. This paper explores how to maximize these opportunities by: offering methodological guidance; reframing research findings in an assessment context; and designing new studies to produce assessment results. The paper provides models based on the author's work.

Anne Marie Delaney
Babson College

Contributed Paper

Basic eSkills - Foundation or Frustration: A Research Study of Entering Students' Computer Competency

2:00 - 2:50 PM
E1

College faculty expect that entering students will possess a set of minimum technology skills - are expectations being met? This question will be examined utilizing results from a Basic Computer Skills Assessment administered to over 2000 applicants of Connecticut Community Colleges. Assessment methodology as well as policy implications will be discussed.

David Nielsen
Manchester Community College

George Rezendes
Three Rivers Community College

Contributed Paper

Predicting Academic Success in the First-Year

2:00 - 2:50 PM
E2

The purpose of this study is to investigate the potential predictors of academic success for first-year students at a private, Catholic College in Pennsylvania. We used Astin's (1993) I-E-O assessment model to evaluate student input and environmental variables to explore their various impact on student success.

Chad May
Cabrini College

Contributed Paper

Connecting Action to Attitudes: Linking Participation to Civic Engagement

2:00 - 2:50 PM
Flower

Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service aims to ensure that Tufts students graduate as committed public citizens, dedicated to acquiring civic knowledge, skills and values. This session highlights preliminary results of a study examining the link between students' experiences at Tufts and their attitudes towards civic engagement over time.

Lisa O'Leary
Tufts University

Dawn Terkla
Tufts University

Contributed Paper

Snap Surveys

2:00 - 2:20 PM
Frampton

Snap Survey Software is a powerful, intuitive Windows-based program for questionnaire design, publishing, data collection and analysis. Snap supports all survey modes (Web, E-mail, Paper, Kiosk, Phone, PDA, Scanning, Tablet PC). Snap has robust analysis capability (Tables, Charts, Reports, Descriptive and Multivariate Statistics) and is very extensible - MS Access or SQL database connectivity and seamless integration with MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access) and SPSS.

Andrea Tavano
Snap Surveys

Vendor Showcase

Gravic, Inc. - Remarkable Products

2:30 - 2:50 PM
Frampton

Do you collect data from surveys, evaluations, tests or other paper and online forms? The remark product family, from Gravic, Inc., is the unique, affordable software solution for collecting data from paper-based or web-based forms. Remark Office OMR ® works with image scanners to collect data from user-created forms. Remark Classic OMR ® works with traditional OMR readers to collect data from pre-printed scannable forms. Remark Web Survey ® makes it very easy for users to create web surveys, tests and other online forms, post them to the internet or an intranet and collect the data.

Steve Joslin
Gravic, Inc. – Remarkable Products

Vendor Showcase

The Pluses and Minuses of Academic Policy Analysis: IR's Role in Assessing the Impact of a New Grading System

2:00 - 2:50 PM
Reynolds

This session describes a study on a proposed plus/minus grading calculation's impact on undergraduate graduation rates, probation and dismissals and course availability. The session will also discuss IR's contribution to discussions regarding implementation of the policy.

Michelle Appel
University of Maryland, College Park

Chad Muntz
University of Maryland, College Park

Contributed Paper

The Institutional Effectiveness Plan: An Excellent Way to Convey Evidence of Assessment

2:00 - 2:50 PM
Shippen

An Institutional Effectiveness Plan (IEP) is a compilation of assessment evidence expected for Middle States accreditation review. The IEP serves as a comprehensive catalog of research and results, and demonstrates the ways assessment is ongoing and integrated on campus. One private university's IEP design and finished product is shown here.

Ellen Boylan
Marywood University

Workshare

The Qualitative Narrative Report of The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's System Accountability Program 2005-2006	*2:00 - 2:50 PM* Whitpen
Performance reporting from Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's (PASSHE) System Accountability Program includes qualitative reporting and evaluations of the Narrative Assessment Statements and University Performance Plans. Each university provides actions and outcomes in support of System goal categories identified in PASSHE's Strategic Plan to move universities in strategically desirable directions.	**Thomas Armstrong** Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education
Contributed Paper	

Break ~ 2:50 – 3:15 PM ~ Foyer to Society Hill Ballroom

In Their Own Words: Effectiveness in Institutional Research	*3:15 - 4:05 PM* Cook
This study seeks to understand and improve IR effectiveness by interviewing, observing, and analyzing resumes of IR practitioners who have been identified by colleagues as effective in having an impact on decision making, planning, and policy formation. Results should be of interest to all interested in improving effectiveness in IR.	**William Knight** Bowling Green State University
Workshare	

Online vs. Traditional Degree Programs: A Comparison of Adult Learners' Expectations, Experiences, Ramily and Work-life Issues	*3:15 - 4:05 PM* E1
The session will present the findings of a Drexel University study to determine the extent to which the delivery of instruction impacts the expectations, experiences, and family and work issues faced by adult students. Differences and similarities between the online and on-campus subgroups will be discussed.	**Mark Palladino** Philadelphia University **Dr. Kenneth Hartman** Drexel University **Dr. Kristen Betts** Drexel University
Contributed Paper	

No Stone Left Unturned: Utilizing the Many Tools of IR and CQI to Analyze the Service Delivery Environment of a University Library	*3:15 - 4:05 PM* E2
As electronic access to information grows at exponential rates, the role of the traditional university library is increasingly questioned. Collaborating with the library, the IR office at one institution employed a number of quantitative and qualitative tools of IR and CQI to examine the role and relevance of its library.	**James Trainer** Villanova University **John Kelley** Villanova University **Dane Hewlett** Villanova University
Workshare	

Students and Sensitive Issues: Disclosing Sexual Orientation and Transgenderism

3:15 - 4:05 PM
Flower

When asked to collect sexual orientation information, we became concerned about our campus' reaction. A literature search and survey of higher education professionals resulted. Our initial concerns, findings from the literature, results from a survey of colleagues, and our own experiences collecting this sensitive information will be discussed.

Heather Roscoe
Tufts University

Dawn Terkla
Tufts University

Contributed Paper

Information Builders

3:15 - 3:35 PM
Frampton

Founded in 1975, Information Builders provides business intelligence, reporting, performance management, and integration with SPSS, which translates into ease of information delivery and predictive analytics.

Tim Beckett
Information Builders

Vendor Showcase

iStrategy Solutions

3:45 - 4:05 PM
Frampton

iStrategy will implement a fully functional data warehouse for a college or university within 48 hours that immediately turns data into actionable information. It is more than a tool, it is an application that offers a low-cost, low-risk, high value alternative to expensive and difficult BI software. Our out-of-the-box application provides information and reporting that a school needs, plus a flexible platform to enable future growth. The benefits include improved data consistency, increased depth and breath of information, the democratization of data across campus power users and power brokers, and incredible reporting efficiencies that allow more time to be spent analyzing data, than producing it.

Dan Venedam
iStrategy Solutions

Vendor Showcase

The IPEDS Finance Survey: Unveiling the Mysteries and Understanding the Intricacies

3:15 - 4:05 PM
Reynolds

The IPEDS Finance survey component provides challenges for both data reporters and data users. This session will focus on illuminating the intricacies of the survey, providing the necessary basics in terminology, explaining the GASB and FASB standards, and imparting the necessary know-how for successfully and accurately completing the survey component.

James Isaac
RTI International

Cathy Statham
NCES

Contributed Paper

Making the Connection: How a Community College can Assist First Generation College Students Make the Transition	*3:15 - 4:05 PM* Shippen
In this study we analyzed which pre-college, background and college related items may affect the transition of students to a community college. Results from the research indicated certain policies colleges could implement to address the issues related to this transition.	**H. Leon Hill** Montgomery County Community College
Contributed Paper	
Do Academic Integration Programs Have a Causal Impact on College Retention?? A Study of a Developmental Mathematics Program Using Discrete-Time Survival and Regression-Discontinuity Analysis	*3:15 - 4:05 PM* Whitpen
I report the results of using the regression-discontinuity design within the framework provided by discrete-time survival analysis. I found that the risk of leaving college among students who participated in a developmental mathematics program was significantly lower than for equivalent students who did not participate in such programs.	**Sally Lesik** Cenral Conneticut State University
Contributed Paper	
IPEDS: The Next Chapter	*4:15 - 5:05 PM* Cook
This session will focus on changes in IPEDS data collection. Topics for discussion include aggregate race/ethnicity reporting, first-professional degree classification, and possible implications of the Report from the Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education and reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. We'll also take a quick look at PAS 2.0 -- the peer tool has a new interface and is easier than ever to use!	**Janice Plotczyk** Team Leader, IPEDS Data Collection, NCES
Invited Speaker	

Toward a More Realistic Approach to Community College Performance Assessment: An Analysis of the Environmental Correlates of Maryland Two-Year School Student Outcomes 2000-2005

4:15 - 5:05 PM
E1

Recently, a new paradigm for tracking and evaluating student academic progress at community colleges was implemented by the Maryland Higher Education Commission in its institutional performance reporting. The new "Degree Progress" approach is an advance over traditional final outcomes-focused assessment in its ability to track the extent of important pre-graduation academic accomplishments and to help institutions identify roadblocks in student flow. This paper describes the results of an analysis of cohort-based Degree Progress outcomes data drawn from all sixteen Maryland community colleges. A systematic comparative review illustrates the model's potential, and a multivariate analysis is presented linking cross-institutional outcome patterns to environmental factors (service area demographics) and institutional characteristics (size, student body demographics, faculty attributes, and academic policy variations). The need for reform of conventional assessment methodologies is then discussed in light of the research findings.

Karl Boughan
Prince Georges Community College

Contributed Paper

The Impact of Financial Aid on Freshman Retention

4:15 - 5:05 PM
E2

The results of this study show that amount of unmet need is the single most important financial aid factor for freshmen persistence. The majority of our students said that financial aid was extremely important and their financial need was not fully met.

Mindy Wang
Catholic University of America

NEAIR Research Grant, 2004   Contributed Paper

Who Are Our Students? Using CIRP to Develop a Better Understanding of Student Diversity

4:15 - 5:05 PM
Flower

This study examines a number of differences between students who are U.S. citizens and those who are permanent residents (green card holders) as they enter one public university. It looks at whether citizenship and/or language status affects student attitudes, behaviors, and experiences, especially those that may affect student outcomes.

Diann F. Simmons
University of Massachusetts, Boston

Kevin B. Murphy
University of Massachusetts, Boston

Contributed Paper

WEAVEonline

4:15 - 4:35 PM
Frampton

WEAVEonline is a systematic planning, evaluation, and improvement solution - allows institutions to manage and track assessment information for accreditation, program reviews, quality enhancement, and annual reporting.

Matt Urey
WEAVEonline

Vendor Showcase

Nuventive

4:45 - 5:05 PM
Frampton

Nuventive is an education-focused technology company that currently offers two web-based software solutions, TracDat (Institutional Planning and Assessment Management) and iWebfolio (Electronic Portfolio System), which allow students, educators, institutions and parents to effectively examine, improve and manage the learning process. iWebfolio is a web-based tool that gives the individuals a personalized, flexible online portfolio to store and present a lifetime's worth of educational and professional experience. TracDat is a web-based assessment management software tool that has templates within to assure a uniformity of reporting that simplifies collection, review, management, and utilization of data.

Michael McLaughlin
Nuventive

Vendor Showcase

The Grass is Always Greener: Analyzing Stability and Change Over Time in U.S. News' Peer Assessment Survey Scores

4:15 - 5:05 PM
Reynolds

Many colleges and universities strive to improve their academic reputations; however, many have found this to be no easy task. This study discusses stability and change over time in the academic reputation of colleges and universities using the U.S. News and World Report peer assessment survey scores.

Kyle Sweitzer
Pennsylvania State University

J. Fredericks Volkwein
Pennsylvania State University

Contributed Paper

Reaching Outside the Ivory Tower: Targeting Business Leaders in Strategic Planning Processes

4:15 - 5:05 PM
Shippen

Through partnering Institutional Research and the Career Services Offices in coordination with the Long Range Planning Committee, local business leaders were surveyed in order to provide data for the forthcoming Strategic Plan. Those surveyed were potential employers of graduates and many offered internship opportunities. Process and results will be presented.

Charlyn Fisher
York College of Pennsylvania

Beverly Evans
York College of Pennsylvania

Workshare

Poster Session & Data with a Twist Reception ~ *5:15 - 6:30 PM,* Hamilton Room

Student Service "Counts": A Simple Method for Placing a Value on Community Engagement

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

In order to reinforce the public's trust in higher education, it is imperative that we remind our communities of the social benefits that they accrue by our presence. This poster offers a simple methodology for measuring the value of student service, and turning it into a high-impact public relations piece.

Cristi Carson
Keene State College

Colleen Pascu
Keene State College

Poster

Student Learning Assessment - How Can Institutional Researchers Help?

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

This poster will show the steps one college implemented to integrate IR into the process of Student Learning Outcomes (including general education and major specific). This poster will stress the importance of the relationship between IR and faculty in assessment to better the quality of education and help in accreditation processes.

Erin Ebersole
Immaculata University

Poster

Competing Explanations for Student Performance and Learning

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Historically, there have been several competing views about what exerts the greatest impact on student performance and learning. The purpose of this study is to determine whether student characteristics (the traditional perspective) or student college experiences (student-institution fit model) or institutional characteristics (the organizational perspective) appear to exert the greatest influence on measures of student performance and learning.

J. Fredericks Volkwein
Pennsylvania State University

Alexander Yin
Penn State

Poster

Discovery of Student Learning at the Institutional Level—Case Study at a Liberal Arts College

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

This study presents findings of student learning through an indirect method at a liberal arts college. Although standardized instruments may test the College mission, locally designed survey items would be more appropriate to measure the extent to which the institutional goals have been achieved through student perceptions of academic experience.

Xiangping Kong
Saint Thomas Aquinas College

Poster

Program Enrollment Planning

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Program review inevitably results in a wish list for faculty, staff and equipment. What use is this if there is no enrollment projection? Create a projection that uses both internal and external data. Bring IPEDS data, BLS data and your grad survey data together to help make enrollment projections real.

James Robertson
Community College of Allegheny County

Poster

Using the Community College Strategic Planner

This presentation provides a demonstration on how the Community College Strategic Planner (CCSP) works and how it has been used on-campus.

Poster

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Christopher Pondish
Passaic County Community College

Where Should We Ge? Helping to Find a New Location for a College Unit

A survey was designed to learn about the preferences of students in the NY Metropolitan area to determine the best new location for a community outreach center in Brooklyn. A sampling procedure with multiple mailings resulted in a response rate of 25% with 408 surveys returned.

Poster

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Mitchell Nesler
SUNY-Empire State College

Tufts OpenCourseWare: Higher Education in a Flat World

When Tufts OpenCourseWare was launched, Tufts aim was "to share its expertise broadly and to empower others throughout the world" (Bacow, 2005). This presentation will describe the evaluation that was undertaken to assess the process, use and impact of the OCW initiative on the internal and external Tufts community.

Poster

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Dawn Geronimo Terkla
Tufts University

Lisa O'Leary
Tufts University

Agenda for Success: Dimensions of Access to Baccalaureate Nursing Programs for Associate Degree in Nursing Graduates in Upstate New York

This poster demonstrates the final product of a collaborative effort between Faculty of three upstate-NY community colleges, and one Institutional Research office. It is a follow-up to a 2002 Maricopa Community College study. Publication was supported by a grant from the Institute for Community College Development (ICCD), a SUNY/Cornell Partnership.

Poster

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Maren Hess
Corning Community College

Getting Your Ducks in a Row: Anticipating and Responding to Legislative Data Needs using IR Information

This poster describes the role IR plays in preparing the University President for his annual Legislative Testimony. The process includes anticipating data needs as well as responding to legislative requests, all the while ensuring that accurate, consistent data are provided.

Poster

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Pamela Phillips
University of Maryland, College Park

Using Maps to Tell a Story: Looking at IPEDS Data Through GIS

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Mapping data provides a new element to data analysis that cannot often be seen in tables and graphs. This presentation will show examples of how we have used IPEDS data in conjunction with the mapping software, ArcView.

Kim Bridgeo
Bentley College

Brock Tibert
Bentley College

Poster

Redesigning a Website: Linking assessment themes, directions, and strategies to functional processes and presentation of information and data

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

The way information is presented and shared has a significant impact on the extent to which information is accessed, understood, and utilized. This poster session presents the redesign of the assessment office website, providing the rationale for each step based on principles of design and guiding principles of the office.

Kathryn Doherty
Towson University

Luz Caceda
Towson University

Poster

XML: What the Workshops Won't Tell You

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

XML is an increasingly popular option for representing data in a consistent, readable, and reusable way. Most workshops do not cover the practical problem of transforming existing files/documents to XML. This presentation looks at ways to convert files from widely-used software like Excel, SAS in institutional research to XML.

Deborah Bolton Stagg
Wharton School - University of Pennsylvania

Yaling Xie
Wharton School - University of Pennsylvania

Poster

Outer Limits of Institutional Research

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

The poster will pictorially summarize the typical core functions of institutional research as well as nearby satellites of frequent IR activities and the potential galaxy of hot spots, black holes, and meteor showers of issues and responsibilities that IR offices may confront in serving their institutions.

Nancy Griffin
University of Connecticut

Poster

Doctoral Student Persistence and Professional Identity Development: A Social Networks Perspective

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

The study seeks to determine how business PhD students develop a professional identity as a faculty member. This longitudinal study draws on mentoring, role, social networks, and professional identity theories to determine how a student's network of relationships influence the professional identity development process leading to eventual persistence or withdrawal.

Vicki Baker
Pennsylvania State University

NEAIR Research Grant, 2005   Poster

Learning Communities and Other Efforts to Enhance Retention

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Members of NEAIR are involved in freshman retention efforts. Many such efforts are presented at The Annual TASS Conference, which I attended in March 2006 with funding from the NEAIR Ambassador Grant. With my presentation, I uphold my responsibility to share with NEAIR the knowledge gained there.

Brian Lashley
Eastern Connecticut State University

NEAIR Ambassador Grant, 2005   Poster

Using Factor Analysis to Clarify Operational Constructs for Measuring Mission

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

The process of blending qualitative and quantitative research methods to develop the new 17-item Mission Perception Inventory (MPI) is described, as are the steps involved in building a NSSE consortium to administer it. Also described is the successful outcome of factor analysis on the results to determine the internal reliability of the instrument and the presence of operational constructs within.

Ellen Boylan
Marywood University

NEAIR Best Paper, 2005   Poster

How Do You Calculate Retention for Adults? Moving Beyond the Traditional Model

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

Retention calculations are typically based on a 18-22 year old population moving through the academy in a Fall to Fall pattern. Examining data from an adult oriented institution, this paper suggests a new way to calculate adult student retention.

Eileen McDonnell
SUNY-Empire State College

NEAIR Best First Paper, 2005   Poster

Stonehill College Dashboard Development

5:15 - 6:30 PM
Hamilton Room

This poster presentation will show Stonehill College's dashboard development process step by step. Sections include: the IR Office role in the development process, coordinating the efforts of administrators from across the College, defining dashboard indicators, creating peer groups, building a data warehouse, creating a dashboard display and glossary of terms, and presenting the final product. The Stonehill dashboard has a unique slice bar display which can easily compare multiple years of actual data and associated goals.

Yang Zhang
Stonehill College

Laura Uerling
Stonehill College

Poster

Monday Evening Dinner Groups ~ 6:30 PM
(Sign up at Conference Registration Table)

Tuesday, November 7, 2006

Higher Education Data Sharing (HEDS) Consortium	*7:00 - 8:00 AM* Reynolds
This session will provide an opportunity for members of HEDS to discuss ongoing and proposed HEDS activities with other HEDS colleagues. All members of HEDS are welcome.	**Jason Casey** HEDS
Special Interest Group	

Continental Breakfast~ 7:00 – 8:30 AM ~ Society Hill Ballroom

	7:15 - 8:00 AM Shippen
Focus Group (By Invitation Only)	**Cynthia Clarke** Juniata College **Ellen Boylan** Marywood University **Louise Murray** College of Saint Elizabeth
Integrated Queries and Reporting	*7:30 - 8:15 AM* Frampton
This group is an open forum for those who use or who are interested in integrated database query, Executive Information System (EIS), and reporting tools to automate reporting for institutional research and/or assessment. Examples of such Business Intelligence (BI) tools include Hyperion Intelligence (formerly Brio), WebFocus, Crystal Reports, Oracle Developer, Cognos, or Hummingbird. These tools help users to develop custom reports that administrative systems such as Banner, Datatel, and Peoplesoft seldom provide, and they can be used to develop data warehouses or data marts. The focus will be not on the products themselves, but on how these tools are changing our data management roles, the questions that we ask, the ways we deliver information, and the types of analyses that we can do. Attendees are encouraged to bring examples of their own reports.	**James Fergerson** Bates College **Alan McArdle** University of Massachusetts Amherst **Marilyn Blaustein** University of Massachusetts Amherst
Special Interest Group	
Proprietary Sector Institutions	*7:30 - 8:15 AM* Society Hill Ballroom
Proprietary sector institutions round table discussion.	**Christopher Vinger** Berkeley College
Special Interest Group	

Counting Public Service Contributions of Colleges Recent developments in public service contributions of colleges and universities will be discussed in terms of the changing definition, the difficulty of measurement, the perspective of different institutions, and the potential publics impacted. Table Topic	*7:30 - 8:15 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **Pamela Roelfs** University of Connecticut
GPHLAIR The Greater Philadelphia Association of Institutional Research (GPHLAIR) kicks off at NEAIR in Philadelphia. Join us for our first open meeting in which we will discuss the role that the organization will take in meeting the needs of the IR community in Greater Philadelphia. Special Interest Group	*7:30 - 8:15 AM* Society Hill Ballroom **Mark Palladino** Philadelphia University **Timothy Walsh** Temple University **Stephen Thorpe** Widener University

Conference Registration Table Open – 8:00 – 11:00 AM
(Remember to submit your conference evaluations!)

What's Ahead for the Upcoming U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Colleges Rankings? U.S. News will discuss plans to implement the new "basic" Carnegie Classification, methodology changes and presentation issues including changing the names of some of the U.S. News rankings categories all of which are being considered for the Best Colleges rankings to be published in 2007 called the 2008 edition. In addition, there will be a brief overview of methodology issues and communications with the IR community that were implemented in the Best Colleges rankings published in August 2006 called the 2007 Edition. Invited Speaker	*8:15 - 9:00 AM* A1/A2 **Robert J. Morse** U.S. News & World Report
Studying Student Learning at Two-Year and Four-Year Institutions with CCSSE and NSSE As more students enroll at two- rather than four-year institutions, one wonders whether learning is the same for students in the two sectors and affected in the same ways by college experiences. Structural modeling with CCSSE/NSSE data from a convenience sample of 17 institutions is used to explore the answers. Workshare	*8:15 - 9:00 AM* Claypoole/Bromley **William Knight** Bowling Green State University **Corby Coperthwaite** Connecticut Community Colleges **Mary Ann Coughlin** Springfield College

A Thumb on the Scale? Ability, Income, and Degree Completion in a Public University

9:10 - 10:00 AM
Cook

Our paper examines academic ability, ability to pay, and degree completion for bachelor's degree students at Penn State. We ask: How does the path to a degree compare for low-income and high-income students of similar academic ability? Does family income act as a "thumb on the scale?"

Michael Dooris
The Pennsylvania State University

Marianne Guidos
The Pennsylvania State University

Contributed Paper

Longitudinal Comparison of Students Entering a Highly Selective Public Four Year Institution as Undeclared versus Declared Majors

9:10 - 10:00 AM
E1

This paper compares admission statistics and the academic success of the approximately 20% of students choosing to enter the college as undecided versus those entering into a declared major. Variables examined include graduating GPA, time to declaration of majors,and others. Plans for further study are included.

Paula Maas
The College of New Jersey

John Wieme
The College of New Jersey

Workshare

Study Abroad: Implications on Academic Attainment and Satisfaction of Undergraduate Students

9:10 - 10:00 AM
E2

Study abroad enrollment increased 45% nationally from 2000 to 2004, however, little is known about its academic effects. This paper will consider the impact of study abroad on a set of student outcomes, including grades, graduation rates, and student satisfaction with their academic experiences at a large private northeastern university.

Andrea Woodley
New York University

Contributed Paper

An Analysis of Time to Degree and Credit Hour Workload by Select Programs: 2003-04 Transcript Study

9:10 - 10:00 AM
Flower

During the 2004-05 academic year, several senior level administrators began to ask questions such as, "Why do we have so many overloads?" This presentation will demonstrate how a one-person IR office used transcript analysis to respond to administrators.

Pat Mizak
Canisius College

NEAIR Best IR Practitioner Report, 2005   Workshare

Evaluating the Adoption of an Online Course Evaluation System

9:10 - 10:00 AM
Frampton

This workshare presents the steps undertaken to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of a recently adopted online course evaluation system. Areas of focus include: effective data collection strategies and the means used to assess the validity of online responses versus those generated via the traditional paper form of the evaluation.

Jessica Greene
Boston College

Workshare

10,000 Written Comments, Now What? Text Analysis using SPSS Text Analysis for Surveys

9:10 - 10:00 AM
Reynolds

Surveys generally include open-ended questions. Often, these comments collect dust in a file cabinet because many researchers lack the time or expertise necessary. This workshare will use a case study to demonstrate how this stand-alone program can categorize open-ended comments and export the codes to facilitate quantitative analysis.

Mandy Smith
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Sonia Liou
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Workshare

The Fall 2002 Cohort--Eight Terms Later

9:10 - 10:00 AM
Shippen

This third in a series of case studies of student swirl follows the fall 2002 cohort that entered our state university through its first eight semesters and tracks retention, persistence and success. Analyses will include demographics, college preparedness, first year program, and GPA.

Alan Sturtz
Connecticut State University System Office

Workshare

Student Involvement and Success: A Study of the Relationship Between Student Involvement and Leadership, Learning Outcomes, and College

9:10 - 10:00 AM
Whitpen

This study looks at the relationships between student involvement and leadership, learning outcomes, and success in college. This workshare presents the research methodology and preliminary findings of the SIS research, discusses the implications for facilitating student success, describes future directions for this research, and suggests applications for participants' campuses.

Kathryn Doherty
Towson University

Luz Caceda
Towson University

Workshare

AIR Higher Education Data Policy Committee at Work

This panel of members from the Higher Education Data Policy Committee (HEDPC) will discuss "hot topics" related to collecting, analyzing, disseminating, and using data on postsecondary education. There will be sufficient time for discussion and questions.

Workshare

10:10 - 11:00 AM
Cook

Peggye Cohen
George Washington University

Jennifer Brown
University of Massachusetts Boston

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes: Online and Embedded

Assessment of student learning across the curriculum requires extensive data collection and management that is ideally suited to the online environment. Assessment should be as closely integrated into curriculum and pedagogical activities as possible. We developed an online course management system that integrates assessment processes directly into course management.

Workshare

10:10 - 11:00 AM
E1

Curtis Naser
Fairfield University

Exploring Astin's Typology to Understand Growth and Satisfaction of Undergraduates from Freshmen to Senior Year at Montclair State University

The paper attempts to explain changes in student type from freshmen to senior year, and to explore the relationship between student types and satisfaction with collegiate experience. Data from CIRP (962) and CSS (504) surveys was used to create typologies and to explore the relationships in this study.

Contributed Paper

10:10 - 11:00 AM
E2

Gurvinder Khaneja
Montclair State University

The Power of Imagining....(Numbers)

The author will demonstrate the benefits of using mathematical models to support planning and decision making. He will present several models used for enrollment management at a medium size private university. These models were created in a small IR office using information from the admission and student information systems.

Workshare

10:10 - 11:00 AM
Flower

Donald Gillespie
Fordham University

Career Tracker: Graduate Student Placement Data and Metrics

The Graduate Division collects job placement data for graduates with a Career Tracker web application. Rankings are assigned based upon type of placement. In the future, these placement metrics in conjunction with performance measures will be used to make academic and financial decisions.

Workshare

10:10 - 11:00 AM
Frampton

Marco Manzo
University of Pennsylvania

William J. McManus
University of Pennsylvania

Mary Costigan
University of Pennsylvania

Software Development Techniques for IR Project Management

From annual reports to ad-hoc analyses, institutional research is very much a project-based field. Similarly to software development, IR projects frequently exhibit what is known as a "virtuous cycle." This session will highlight some of software development's "best practices" and how they might be applied to managing IR projects.

Workshare

10:10 - 11:00 AM
Reynolds

Daniel Nugent
Pennsylvania State University

Demographic Predictors of Binge Drinking and Consequences for Academic Performance

The results of a multivariate analysis of self-reported binge drinking rates are discussed, highlighting the role of social class (need-based financial aid) as a uniquely strong predictor of binge drinking, and documenting the academic underperformance of binge drinkers. Implications for campus policy are discussed.

Workshare

10:10 - 11:00 AM
Whitpen

Mark Freeman
Colby College

Break ~ 11:10 – 11:15 AM ~ Foyer to Society Hill Ballroom

Closing Plenary Session

"NEAIR Past President's Plenary"

Our closing session this year features three of our distinguished past presidents who will address the question "How does IR gain and maintain the ability to inform decision makers on campus and in the higher education community?" Please join us for what is sure to be an engaging discussion. Refreshments will be served and the session will end with the NEAIR Annual Raffle.

Invited Speakers

11:15 AM - 12:30 PM
Society Hill Ballroom

Michael Middaugh
University of Delaware

Dawn Terkla
Tufts University

Michelle Appel
University of Maryland

VENDOR DESCRIPTIONS

NEAIR Thanks the Following Sponsoring Vendors for their Support:

Academic Analytics

The Faculty Scholarly Productivity index is a method for evaluating doctoral programs at research universities based on a standard set of statistical algorithms.

For more information visit: www.academicanalytics.com
Contact: Bill Savage, (734) 255-8369, bill@academicanalytics.com

Center for the Study of Higher Education at Penn State University

The Center for the Study of Higher Education at Penn State, the nation's oldest and largest Center, has initiated a mostly on-line, Graduate Certificate Program for training institutional researchers. The Penn State certificate program includes courses in the Foundations of IR, Strategic Planning & Resource Mgt, Assessing Outcomes and Evaluating Academic Programs, Basic Applied Statistics, Multivariate Stat., Enrollment Mgt. Studies, Studies of Students and Student Affairs, Analyzing Faculty Workload, and Designing IR Studies. The Center also offers masters and doctoral programs in Higher Education, and engages in research that examines significant issues of practice and policy. The areas of current and historic strength at the Center include studies of students and outcomes assessment, studies of access and opportunity, studies of faculty and curricula, studies of finance, governance, and accreditation.

For more information visit: www.ed.psu.edu/cshe/
Contact: Dr. Fred Volkwein, (814) 865-9739, volkwein@psu.edu

Collegiate Learning Assessment

The CLA is an assessment tool for measuring institutional contributions to undergraduate student learning. The CLA presents measures that are performance-based, administered wholly online, and chart growth in critical thinking, analytic reasoning and written communication skills.

For more information visit: www.cae.org/cla
Contact: James Padilla, (212) 661-5800, jpadilla@cae.org

Gravic, Inc. – Remark Products Group

Do you collect data from surveys, evaluations, tests or other paper and online forms? The remark product family, from Gravic, Inc., is the unique, affordable software solution for collecting data from paper-based or web-based forms. Remark Office OMR ® works with image scanners to collect data from user-created forms. Remark Classic OMR ® works with traditional OMR readers to collect data from pre-printed scannable forms. Remark Web Survey ® makes it very easy for users to create web surveys, tests and other online forms, post them to the internet or an intranet and collect the data.

For more information visit: www.gravic.com
Contact: Steve Joslin, (800) 858-0860, Sales@gravic.com

Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA

Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA is the home of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP), a national longitudinal study of the American higher education system. The CIRP is the nation's largest and oldest empirical study of higher education, involving data on some 1,800 institutions and over 11 million students. CIRP offers institutions comparative information on students at three time-points during college through these surveys: Freshman Survey, Your First College Year, and the College Student Survey. HERI also offers a Faculty Survey, conducted every three years. HERI is based in the Graduate School of Education and information Studies at UCLA.

For more information visit: www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/heri.html
Contact: John Pryor, (301) 825-1925, jpryor@ucla.edu

Information Builders

Founded in 1975, Information Builders provides business intelligence,   reporting, performance management, and integration with SPSS, which translates into ease of information delivery and predictive analytics.

For more information visit: www.informationbuilders.com
Contact: Tim Beckett, (832) 251-5702, tim_beckett@ibi.com

iStrategy Solutions

iStrategy will implement a fully functional data warehouse for a college or university within 48 hours that immediately turns data into actionable information. It is more than a tool, it is an application that offers a low-cost, low-risk, high value alternative to expensive and difficult BI software. Our out-of-the-box application provides information and reporting that a school needs, plus a flexible platform to enable future growth. The benefits include improved data consistency, increased depth and breath of information, the democratization of data across campus power users and power brokers, and incredible reporting efficiencies that allow more time to be spent analyzing data, than producing it.

For more information visit: www.istrategysolutions.com
Contact: Dan Venedam, (410) 581-0180 ext 13, dvenedam@istrategysolutions.com

National Student Clearinghouse

The National Student Clearinghouse is a not-for-profit organization operating nationwide and serving over 91 percent of American higher education and more than 2,800 colleges and universities. We are the preeminent provider of standardized and automated enrollment and degree verification services for colleges and universities. We also provide StudentTracker, an institutional research and management service that support studies examining the migratory patterns of students from high school through post-secondary education.

For more information visit: www.studentclearinghouse.org
Contact: Pam Gilligan, (508) 541-8057, gilligan@studentclearinghouse.org

Nuventive

Nuventive is an education-focused technology company that currently offers two web-based software solutions, *TracDat* (Institutional Planning and Assessment Management) and *iWebfolio* (Electronic Portfolio System), which allow students, educators, institutions and parents to effectively examine, improve and manage the learning process. iWebfolio is a web-based tool that gives the individuals a personalized, flexible online portfolio to store and present a lifetime's worth of educational and professional experience. TracDat is a web-based assessment management software tool that has templates within to assure a uniformity of reporting that simplifies collection, review, management, and utilization of data.

For more information visit: www.nuventive.com
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