SARA Assessment Brown Bag Series Presents:

USING AVAILABLE DATA

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April 11, 2012
Assessment

- We start with a question or a gap in our knowledge

- And then we build an assessment tool to bridge that gap

- Right??
What do most people forget?

- To see what data is already available!

- We are lucky because Penn State is data-rich 😊
Objectives of today’s session

- You will start future assessment efforts by mining your own data.
- You will be able to identify at least 3 other potential sources of data at PSU.
- You will be able to develop more refined assessment questions based on available data.
Start with your own resources
You may have more relevant data at your fingertips than you realize…
SARA RESOURCES
• SARA conducts 6 or more Pulse surveys a year and has been for a long time. That’s a lot of data and it is *underutilized*.

• List of past Pulse reports can be found online

• SARA analysts are available to slice & dice Pulse datasets to help you get the answers you need
• Data around involvement, faculty interaction, cocurriculum, learning outcomes

• SARA analysts can breakdown data by residential status, gender, race, Greek status, age, college, campus, etc.
Incoming first-year students at each Commonwealth Campus and UP

Drinking behaviors, drinking attitudes, negative consequences

Online alcohol education module specific to Penn State’s code of conduct, state/local laws
Student Satisfaction Survey

- Data related to students’ academic integration, cocurricular involvement, time usage, and satisfaction with services
- Available for all campuses
- Again, SARA can slice & dice this data to help you answer your questions.
Often we are seeking context to frame our projects, proposals, reports, etc.

- For example, the CWS and ALPS might be collaborating to serve non-traditional-aged women students and need to frame the argument for funding in terms of the potential audience for their programs.

- Where might they look?
From simplest to more complex

- The University Factbook (anyone can access)
- Factbook Plus*
- iTwo*
- Data Warehouse*

* You can request access through your Area Security Representative (for Student Affairs, this is Cheri Graham in SAIT). Your ASR will need confirmation that the appropriate administrative officer approves your access. You may be required to provide justification for access.
NATIONAL DATA
- Digest of Education Statistics
- Projections of Education Statistics
- IPEDS, NELS, NPSAS, BPS, B&B…
  - Demographics
  - Access
  - Choice
  - Financial Aid
  - Persistence,
  - Degree attainment
  - Time to degree
  - Labor force participation
• Education and workforce surveys
• National Survey of College Graduates
• National Survey of Recent College Graduates
Resources

- Data Warehouse: http://ais.its.psu.edu/services/warehouse/default.asp
- iTwo: http://ais.its.psu.edu/services/itwo/default.asp
- NCES: http://nces.ed.gov/
- Pulse: http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/assessment/pulse/
- Student Satisfaction Survey instrument: http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/assessment/satisfaction.shtml
- University Fact Book: http://studentaffairs.psu.edu/assessment/resources.shtml
- University Fact Book Plus: https://budget.psu.edu/factbook/AboutFBPlus.aspx
Questions

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