University Analysis

Jericho Timbol

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In this scenario we are asked to create a visualization based on the question “is UW Bothell a typical university compared to others in Washington State?”. In my visualization the general story follows the process of finishing schooling; from getting admitted, to accepting the offer, and then finally graduating. These patterns tell a story about statistical percentages, averages and comparisons based on numerous admission variables and related totals. These variables involve: applicant amount based on gender, total admission yield and total cohort graduation rate. As we exist in an ever-growing diverse society, it is essential to account for all kinds of people in the application process and how these applicants make a decision to stay and finish. These statistical outcomes could inform universities on the kinds of students seeking to attend their school and also the statistics of student retention and completion. In my first graph we see the completion rate comparisons between the school. We see UW Bothell coming in 4th out of the 8 Washington universities I chose to compare throughout the visualization. I organized the bars in a sideways bar graph in order to show a hierarchy of graduation rates. Making it easy to interpret the position compared to other schools. Graduation rate is a universal metric as well so a single variable bar graph worked well. After that to provide some contrast, I added a comparative double bar graph going upwards in order to show admissions rate based on gender. These side-by-side bars are good in showing the disparity between two distinct groups of applicants, male and female. Each section of two bars is aligned with a university making the legibility easily comparable based on the glance of height. We can see that UWB is even in gender-based admission with only a 2 percent difference leaning towards female. On the right-hand side, I have a height-oriented plot with the percent of total admitted applicant choosing to accept the offer at the respective school. I went with this plot because I wanted to find a way to be able to visually show the average which I felt the plot lent itself well to a mean line. It also shows UWB as a university that is above average in admitted student retention as compared to the other schools. Overall, I went with percentages due to the size disparities of the different schools. Additionally, I went with the “Seattle Gray” tableau color pallet in addition to purple to match the theme of the scenario.