**PROJECT WORK PLAN**

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**DATASET AND LICENSE:**

IPEDS is the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. It is a system of interrelated surveys conducted annually by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). IPEDS gathers information from every college, university, and technical and vocational institution that participates in the federal student financial aid programs. ("About IPEDS," 2018)

The dataset can be found here:

<https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/use-the-data/download-access-database>

The license for the above dataset is available here:

[*https://ies.ed.gov/funding/researchaccess.asp*](https://ies.ed.gov/funding/researchaccess.asp)

**RESEARCH QUESTIONS:**

This project aims to concentrate efforts on three of the eight surveys that are submitted throughout the survey's yearly cycle and compare University of Maryland, College Park, specifically, to the rest of the Big Ten Institutions. ("List of Big Ten Schools, Ranked and Reviewed," 2018) We were going to get some basic information of IPEDS. emphasize on the following main variables:

* Fall Enrollment
* Financial Aid
* Graduation Rates
* Retention Rates
* Population: International Students

Some research questions that can be answered using these variables are:

* How successful are international students in getting financial aid?
* Does receiving financial aid relate to being retained to the next year and/or receiving a degree?
* How well do international students receive financial aid in comparison to other groups on campus?
* The cut-off percentile required for an admit to that particular school <*predictive analytics>*

**TARGET AUIDEINCE:**

The target audience for this project are:

* Prospective international students hoping to come to the United States to study
* Media companies like US News that publish opinions, rankings and analysis for these Universities.
* Admissions staff at universities

**COLLABORATION TOOLS:**

The tools that the members of this team are using are mainly:

* *Version management tool*: Github
* *Cloud sharing platform*: Google Drive
* *Data analysis and visualization tool*: R Studio
* *Documentation tool*: Microsoft Office
* *Database tool*: Microsoft Access

**PLANNED TIMELINE AND DELEGATION:**

Attached here is the Gantt chart outlining the Project timeline and tasks along with task delegation. ****

**REFERNCES:**

* About IPEDS. (2018, October 5). Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/about-ipeds>
* List of Big Ten Schools - Ranked and Reviewed. (2018, October 5). Retrieved from <https://www.niche.com/blog/list-of-big-ten-schools-ranked-and-reviewed/>