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LEARNING LOG

Dashboards for Data Informed Decisions



DETAILS

MAKING IT WORK, UNDERSTANDING WHAT WORKS, AND SHARING WHAT WORKS

TITLE

Dashboards for Data Informed Decisions

SOLUTION

Redesigned Planning Advising and Student Services; Developmental Education Reform and Supports for Learning

CAPACITIES

Policy;Leadership & Culture;Institutional Research

Owner

Sue Gerber (/education/s/profile/005360000046lpiAAA)

ī,

Record Type

INSTITUTION

New Jersey City University

Monthly-Current 2017

REFLECTION

SITE INITIATIVE

One of the benefits of the Frontier Set grant is that it allows us to build upon and integrate various related activities on campus, such as data informed decision making. The Office for Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) is developing interactive dashboards to provide greater access to data for faculty and staff and also the ability to filter the data in multiple ways to gain further insight and address specific questions.

PROGRESS TOWARD STUDENT SUCCESS®

Annually, we post a progress card (http://www.njcu.edu/sites/default/files/pdfs/progresscardfinal-nt-2016.pdf) charting historical progress on key metrics. In the past, our office has responded to requests to provide the information for specific subsets of students on an adhoc basis. Faculty and staff have also been able to request data from other offices such as IT.

In order to enhance access to, consistency of, and useful of the data, we are developing dashboards for the University community. To do so, we:

- 1. Reviewed data requests to find commonalities in the inforomation sought, including which demographic factors or characteristics were included in the requests.
- 2. Established university-wide definitions of and procedures for extracting data elements
- 3. Partnered with IT to develop interactive dasboards. The first dashboards allow internal and external comparisons and display: headcount, retention and graduation rates, FTE, Institutional comparisons (IPEDS data using NJ institutions and aspirational peers and comparators), and degrees awarded.
- 4. Access was provided on our
 - IE website (http://www.njcu.edu/institutional-effectiveness/institutional-research)

IMPACT

If successful, this project will result in:

- 1. Increased access to consistent information
- 2. More informed decision making

3. More efficient functioning of the IE office, making more time available for engaging in more complex analyses for and services to the University.

Indicators of success include

- 1. Hits to the dashboards, reduction in ad hoc data requests to IE and to other offices
- 2. Faculty/staff actions based on the data, including possibly the decision to change or stop certain activities based on information
- 3. The number of new projects the IE staff can undertake

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL RESOURCES®

The dashboards development was a partnership between IT and IE teams. Two methods/applications were use: Cognos BI (for the most complex data and reports) and Tableau (for the more manageable data). To date, staff have been largely self-taught on the applications. Our development is ongoing.

NEXT CRITICAL STEPS®

For success, we must engage faculty and staff - providing access, assisting in using the tools, increasing understanding of data and questions to ask, gathering feedback to improve the visualizations, and prioritizing future dashboards to develop.

The project must also close the loop by providing fa success.	aculty and staff a venue to share how they have used the data to enact change and increase student
OPPORTUNITIES/CHALLENGES®	
	and staff to a greater understanding of and use of data for decision making. Challenges include
QUESTIONS/REQUESTS •	
We are interested in learning more about similar da and challenges	shboard rollouts from IR/IE offices, particularly those that are further along, and your opportunities
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