INsights

December 2017

Published once each semester, this newsletter is designed to inform readers of the activities, information, and services provided by Ball State’s Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE). INsights will be distributed each semester via email as well as archived on our web site.

Community Engagement Impact Survey Results

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) developed Community Engagement Impact Surveys for community partners, faculty, and students in order to collect information about the impact of community outreach and engagement activities from the members of these groups. The results are used to provide ongoing feedback to the President’s Engagement Council and offices responsible for coordinating community engagement activities such as Building Better Communities, the Office of the Associate Provost and Dean of University College, and Student Voluntary Services.

The 2015-2016 Community Engagement Impact Survey was facilitated for faculty in February 2017. The survey was made available to community partners and students beginning April 2017. Each survey targeting outreach and engagement projects. OIE plans to use it annually on an ongoing basis. This report describes feedback about the impact of 2015-2016 activities.

The single most important reason to work with Ball State identified by the community partner respondents was associated with the quality of the work performed. Other reasons mentioned included having worked with Ball State University on previous projects, and the expertise of the specific people at Ball State University with whom they worked.

The full report is located here.

Tableau Implementation Progress Report

Tableau systems are up and running! Currently, three systems are being used by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness in an effort to provide consistent, timely data to the university. The creation of these systems has been a process of working with IT to develop “snapshots” of the appropriate data in a data warehouse and linking it to a tableau system that can provide pdf reports on demand that can easily be adjusted to address specific questions. These systems should also allow IE to reproduce similar reports as new data becomes available, such as at the beginning or the end of the semester.

The systems include sets of pdf reports that create Ball State’s University and College Fact books, grade distributions, and retention and graduation information. The process has been somewhat time consuming as we ensure the data and reports are all working as expected, and we greatly appreciate the university’s patience as we work through the details.

On Page 2 is an example of the retention and graduation information, providing retention and graduation rates of the Fall 2011 first time, full-time baccalaureate degree-seeking cohort as reported to IPEDS.

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Office of Institutional Effectiveness
Ball State University
West Quad 200  Muncie, IN 47306
765-285-5974 | Website
Fall 2011 First-time, Full-Time Baccalaureate Degree-Seeking Beginners (On- and Off- Campus)

(All Ethnicities, All Genders, All Colleges)

1 Year Later | 2 Years Later | 3 Years Later | 4 Years Later | 5 Years Later | 6 Years Later | 7 Years Later | 8 Years Later
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
2942, 77.7% | 2646, 69.9% | 2446, 64.6% | 1802, 47.6% | 2232, 58.9% | 2325, 61.4% | | |
846, 22.3% | 1139, 30.1% | 1270, 33.5% | 601, 15.3% | 1385, 36.6% | 1419, 37.5% | 1421, 37.5% | |

Source: Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Enrolled students were enrolled at census of the fall semester the indicated number of years after starting. Graduated students had received a bachelor's degree before fall census of the indicated number of years later. Excludes students removed from the cohort due to death, military deployment, permanent disability, or official church mission assignments.
Office Changes and Congratulations

We welcome Don Friesner as our newest office member.

Don Friesner joined the office in December 2017 as an Information Management Specialist. In this position he works closely with Janice Childress to update datasets for state and federal compliance and maintain information on retention, graduation, and persistence. He will also produce information for Office projects, including the University and College Fact Books, Common Data Set, and the National Study of Instructional Costs and Productivity, and respond to ad hoc information requests.

Previously, Mr. Friesner worked in Institutional Research at Central Michigan University for five years. In addition, he was a research assistant at Arizona State University. He holds a business degree and a Master of Public Administration from Grand Valley State University, and has a Graduate Certificate in Research Administration from Central Michigan University. In his spare time, he spends time with his two Labrador Retrievers, and looks forward to fishing at his cabin in Michigan during the summer months. Questions that were previously addressed to Christopher Childs should be directed to Mr. Friesner.

We congratulate Karen M. Hansen-Morgan, Communications Specialist, on completing her EdD in December 2017 from Ball State University. She majored in Adult, Higher, and Community Education, with an emphasis in Higher Education, and a cognate in Communication Studies.

Data Mart Development

The collaboration between OIE, IT, and other campus experts continues for development of a data mart that provides a source of more stable and reliable University data for standard reports and ad hoc requests. Data areas now available for OIE staff members include 1) enrolled students with demographic and educational data and programs of study, 2) FTE faculty load data, and 3) grades. Additional areas in development include retention and graduation cohorts, class section data, faculty and staff member data, and peer benchmarking data from the National Study of Instructional Costs and Productivity. A future project will be adding survey data to the data mart. Results of the improved data sources are seen in some restatements of multi-year data in the current university and college fact books and the academic unit profiles. OIE would like to recognize our IT colleagues Missy Adkison and Brian Means for their outstanding collegiality and support.

IR Certificate Activities

During the Fall 2017 semester 8 students were enrolled in the ID 602 Institutional Research course. Three of those students completed the IR internship in Spring 2017, an additional two did the internship this semester, two more will do the internship next spring and the last one next summer.

Recent Publications by Ball State OIE Members

Bill Knight recently published the following:

Projects Underway and Recently Completed

- The 2017 Summer Assessment Grant projects have been completed, and reports are linked on the Summer Assessment Grant Reports page. This year’s projects represented the highest participation in the program in recent history (28 projects, 50 faculty members, 18 academic units).
- Led the programmatic assessment for Tier 2 and Tier 3 of the University Core Curriculum. For details on this project see the Assessment INsights newsletter. In connection with this project, trained 34 volunteer faculty members in using the assessment rubrics and the Blackboard Outcomes Assessment system.
- Digital Measures training sessions for faculty, staff, associate deans, department chairs, and administrative coordinators.
- Faculty FTE load reporting.
- Supported the University’s strategic planning process by collecting planning metrics from across campus and assembling them for the President’s Annual Report.
- Continued support of Qualtrics training and development as the University’s primary survey tool.
- Continued support of the University’s homecoming event through King and Queen elections using Qualtrics voting capabilities.
- Mapworks and the First-year Student Survey reports for Fall 2017 are in progress and will be completed in early Spring 2018 semester.

Recent Projects Now Available Online
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

For information on Official Statistics, click on the following links:

- Common Data Set
- Student Consumer Information
- Academic Unit Profiles
- Faculty FTE Load Distribution reports (department, college, and university levels)
- Other Academic Unit Reports, including degrees awarded, student course enrollments, student credit hours, and majors declared

For information on Surveys, Studies and Other Resources, click on the following links:

- MAP-Works First Year Student Survey (Fall 2016 results)
- MAP-Works Sophomore Student Survey (Fall 2016 results)
- Mapworks Transfer Student Survey (Fall 2016 results)
- Graduate Student Exit Survey (2015-2016 results)
- First-Year Student Survey Report (2016 results)
- Previous Surveys and Studies