Published Fall and Spring semesters, 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.

### Qualtrics Updates Bring New Online Interface and Analysis Tools

In OIE, we use Qualtrics for many of our online survey administration needs, and we also help answer questions or set up surveys or collaboration groups for other offices or departments on campus. We have recently coordinated with Information Technology and Qualtrics for the implementation of a no-reply@bsu.edu sending address. This replaces the noreply@qemailserver.com sending address in order to more clearly identify BSU survey email as originating on campus.

The new Qualtrics Insight Platform will be implemented on May 23. This is a new online interface for Qualtrics. All of the old functionality is there, and in addition, some new reporting and data analysis tools have been added. The new version may be previewed by selecting the option from your account menu in Qualtrics. After May 23, all accounts will be transferred automatically. This should not affect your existing surveys, but you may notice some formatting changes in reports.

If you do not have a Qualtrics account, you may obtain one by logging in with your BSU username and password at bsu.qualtrics.com. Contact Brian Pickerill at bpickerill@bsu.edu or 5-8678.

### Institutional Research Graduate Certificate Program Growth and Restructuring

One of the responsibilities of the Office has been overseeing the Institutional Research Certificate that is available at the graduate level. Each semester the Office hosts graduate student interns as part of their certificate requirements. In Fall 2015-Spring 2016, the office hosted 10 interns, and following the May 2016 commencement, the program will have over 90 graduates. Currently the program is on hold pending program restructuring. For more information contact Bill Knight, at wknight@bsu.edu or 5-2191.

### Third Annual Assessment Forum 2016

OIE and the University Assessment Committee co-sponsored an Assessment Forum in April. Faculty from the Departments of Management, Philosophy and Religious Studies, English, and Criminal Justice and Criminology presented on topics including examination of the CATME tool and its use in assessment, the assessment of soft skills, designing assessment congruent with department values, and lessons learned about assessing learning outcomes. Additional details are available in the Assessment Insights May 2016 newsletter.

Copies of the agenda, the presentations, and the assessment newsletter are available at the Assessment Resources page.
Ball State OIE Represented at Professional Conferences

OIE staff members attended the Indiana Association for Institutional Research 2016 conference April 7-8. Bill Knight presented a session entitled An IR Faculty Success Toolkit and also participated in a panel addressing the topic Maximizing Leadership Skills for Impact Beyond the IR/IE Office. In addition, Bill participated in a workshop on Lean Fundamentals at Miami University on March 1-2. Bill continued his work with the Higher Learning Commission as part of accreditation teams reviewing Wright State University and the University of Wisconsin in March.

Continuing into the summer, OIE staff members will be attending the 2016 Association for Institutional Research (AIR) conference May 31-June 4 where Bill will be providing a pre-conference workshop entitled Leadership in IR and IE: Enhancing Personal and Professional Effectiveness, making a presentation on An IR Faculty Success Toolkit, and participating in a panel with the title Increasing the Overall Efficiency and Effectiveness of IR/IE Offices. Bill will also host meetings of the Ball State IR certificate alumni and friends and a meeting of the Association for Higher Education Effectiveness.

Wen Qi will also be presenting a paper at AIR on Actual Campus Involvement, Self-reported Engagement, and First-Year Outcomes. She also co-presented with Scott Reinke and Kay Bales at the NASPA Annual Conference. Their paper was entitled Engagement and Retention through Mobile Gamification.

Also in May, Karen M. Hansen-Morgan will present as a member of a panel at the International Conference for Qualitative Researchers (ICQI) in Urbana-Champaign. The other panel members include Kevin Carey, Miki Hamstra, and Aletta Sanders, and they will present on the topic Farming and More: What Animals Can Teach Us About Qualitative Research. Karen’s presentation is entitled Ruminants: Chewing the Cud of Data Collection. In addition Karen is presenting a paper entitled El Marie’s Love Notes: What We Can Learn About Persistence in a Gaming Environment.

Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY Newsletter and Other Print Resources in OIE Library

OIE subscribes to the Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY newsletter, which is produced by The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, at www.postsecondary.org, part of the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE). This research newsletter is published 12 times per year and addresses topics related to the ability of individuals to obtain post-secondary education. A single topic is featured each issue, with data presented in graphic format and broken down by various demographic and historical indicators. The stated mission of the publication is:

This research letter is founded on two beliefs. First, sound public social policy requires accurate, current, independent, and focused information on the human condition. Second, education is essential to the development of human potential and resources for both private and public benefit. Therefore, the purpose of this research letter is to inform those who formulate, fund, and administer public policy and programs about the condition of and influences that affect postsecondary education opportunity for all Americans. (p. 2)

The most recent issue was entitled Data That Should Inform Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. The newsletter provides an overview of historical conditions since the initial passage of the Higher Education Act, a summary of the research approach used to analyze and report the data within the newsletter, and graphical representation of the findings. Data is included for two- and four-year institutions.

The last portion of this issue included eight proposals for reauthorization, including a $13,000 Pell Grant maximum award, a $2,000 Super Pell Grant equivalent to the negative EFC currently calculated from FAFSA data, joint Federal-State partnerships for financing Pell Grants, expanding college work-study programs, and a rigorous evaluation of all financial aid programs.

Contact OIE for a loan of this or other print resources on issues related to institutional research and effectiveness.
Recent Projects Now Available Online
Office of Institutional Effectiveness

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

- Accreditation Resources
- Assessment and Assessment Forum
- Assessment Insights newsletter
- Mapworks First Year Student Survey (Fall 2015 results)
- Mapworks Sophomore Student Survey (Fall 2015 results)
- Mapworks Transfer Student Survey (Fall 2015 results)

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

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

Projects Underway and Recently Completed

- OIE funded 23 2016 Summer Assessment Grant proposals. $40,000 has been awarded to 41 faculty members across 13 departments.
- The Office has administered approximately 38 Major Field Tests and other examinations to 830 students to support assessment of student learning in eight departments in Fall 2014 and Spring 2015, and funded these activities for the approximate sum of $19,185.
- The Office distributed exit surveys for the IEI program, and administers their course evaluations for each session.
- College Fact Books for the 2015-2016 year have been created and posted.
- Academic departments and administrative offices have been asked to update the University’s strategic plan metrics for 2015-2016. Updates are requested by July 1. Questions should be directed to Bill Knight at wknight@bsu.edu or 5-2191.
- OIE has responded to multiple external surveys, including the Indiana Graduate Business programs for Indiana Business Journal, NASAD 2015-16 Heads Data Survey, College Board’s Annual Survey of Colleges, Peterson’s Annual Survey of Undergraduate Institutions, Undergraduate Financial Aid, and Graduate and Professional Institutions, Wintergreen Orchard House Survey, NSF/NIH Survey of Graduate Students and Postdocs in Science and Engineering, and CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment and Degrees Conferred, among others.
- OIE assisted with the Dual Credit Program Course Evaluation distribution and will be assisting with the analysis over the summer.
- The Faculty Load handbook has been updated. Make sure you are using the most current version. Spring 2016 FTE reporting will be produced and posted shortly after the end of the Spring 2016 semester.
- Multiple training sessions were offered for Digital Measures Activity Insight, along with an open lab.

Congratulations

Irah Modry-Caron has resigned from his position as Associate Director for Data Management, Analysis, and Reporting to accept the position of Director of Institutional Research at Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW). We will miss Irah and his many contributions, but wish him well in his new role.