

Institutional Research Project Inventory – May 2007

Annual Projects

Project	Report Recipients / HOW USED
Sum & Substance Factbook. Calculation and compilation of tables, charts and historical data about Webster, generally presenting a five-year perspective.	Administrative Council, Board of Trustees, Deans, Administrative Department Heads, Extended Campus Directors, Department Chairs, Faculty Senate / DECISION-MAKING, BUDGET PLANNING
CIRP Freshman Survey. Administration of survey to Freshman Seminar classes and analysis of responses, with comparisons to national norms.	Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, Admissions, Multicultural Office, Academic Affairs, Development, all Freshman Seminar Faculty, <i>The Journal</i> . / STUDENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMS
Credit Hour by Department Report. Summary report showing total credit hours and student credit hours generated by each department for academic year.	Laura Rein / LIBRARY BUDGET PLANNING
Undergraduate Student Retention and Completion Reports. Longitudinal study of six years of performance and persistence data on UG student cohorts, since 1988.	Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, Administrators, Academic Affairs./ ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING
Graduate Student Retention and Completion Reports. Longitudinal study of three years of performance and persistence data on GR student cohorts, since 1988. (From 1996 on, six years of data are included.)	Same as above.
CSRDE (Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange) Submission of 6-year retention and completion data for full time freshmen to national data-sharing entity. Final report includes comparisons to national norms.	Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, Administrators, Academic Affairs. / ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING
IPEDS Graduation Rate Survey. Complete the portion of IPEDS pertaining to the 6 year completion rates of undergraduate students.	Registrar, U.S. Department of Education / DEPT of EDUC REQUIREMENT

External Survey Responses. Response to requests for information from external entities, e.g., College Board, U.S. News & World Report, Business Week, etc.	External entities, plus pertinent Webster administrators. / ENSURE ACCURACY OF WEBSTER DATA ON VARIOUS WEBSITES
Update Fact Sheet and Pocket Facts. Provide updated student and campus data for printed and Web version of <i>Fact Sheet</i> and the smaller <i>Pocket Facts</i> .	Webster Community. / PROVIDE QUICK DATA FOR TALKING POINTS AMONG WEBSTER COMMUNITY

Periodic Projects

Project	Report Recipients / HOW USED
Faculty Salary Study. Comparison of salaries of male and female full-time faculty (1999-2000, 2003, 2006-07), in conjunction with Finance Office and Academic Affairs.	Faculty Senate, Faculty Salary and Gender Subcommittee, Academic Affairs. / ASSIST WITH MAINTENANCE OF FACULTY SALARY EQUITY
General Education Assessment. Assist Curriculum Committee with analysis of General Education goal attainment (1992-93, 1995-97, and 2004-05).	Curriculum Committee / CURRICULUM ASSESSMENT
Environmental Scan. Create tables comparing Webster and peer institutions regarding finances, enrollment, completion rates and other benchmarks. Scan of socio-political, demographic, economic and technological environment for higher education. (2001,2003,2006)	Administrators / STRATEGIC PLANNING
Individual Campus Retention and Completion Rates. One- and two-year retention rates for UG students at various campuses, plus completion rates for both UG and GR students. Extraction from UG and GR Student Tracking Databases.	Enrollment Management and extended campus personnel./ ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING
Environmental Impact Study. Provided Webster student and institutional data to an economist with St. Louis RCGA who calculated the economic impact of Webster on Webster Groves and on the metropolitan St. Louis area. (2005)	Administrators, Board of Trustees / INFORMATION FOR EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES

Ad Hoc Information Requests (Examples)

Projects	Report Recipients / HOW USED
Title III Research Report: Identify Courses and Departments with a Low Rate of Student Success (2002)	Academic Affairs / ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT
Instructional Activity by Type of Faculty – part of the Resource Data for Faculty Growth Planning. Created tables showing the percentage of Course Credit Hours and Student Credit Hours taught by full-time vs. part-time faculty for FA 1999, FA 2000 and FA 2001.	Deans, Academic Affairs, Faculty Growth Plan task force. / FACULTY PRODUCTIVITY ANALYSIS
Spirituality Survey – Participated in pilot of HERI survey of 2000 Freshmen (during their Junior year) re: their spirituality, values and beliefs. March-April, 2003.	Enrollment Management, Student Affairs / STUDENT AFFAIRS PLANNING
GFK Roper Presentation. Combined market research data from GFK Roper with Webster student and institutional data to report on higher education environment. (2006)	Administrators, Academic Affairs and Development Office personnel. / MARKETING PLANNING
Writing Center Usage Analysis. Analyzed log data from 3 years of student visits to writing center to determine frequency of types of usage and by which student groups (2007).	Office of Academic Assessment, Academic Resource Center. / ACADEMIC RESOURCES CENTER PLANNING

Institutional Research Mission Statement

The role of the Office of Institutional Research (IR) is to provide information to the decision-makers of Webster University, to help determine whether the institution is doing what it says it will do and, if so, how effectively and efficiently. To accomplish this research, IR employs the following guidelines and tools:

- Align research with the University’s Strategic Plan and Mission
- Establish and maintain the validity and reliability of data
- Use both quantitative and qualitative analysis
- Follow the guidelines of basic research – using literature review, hypotheses and primary research techniques
- Maintain objectivity

November 1, 2000