

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND DECISION SUPPORT

March 9, 2011

History of IR&DS



- ❑ Originally formed as part of ITSS in FY92 as a data warehousing group (DWS)
- ❑ The decision support piece was transferred to the VP for Planning in FY97 and named Decision Support Systems
- ❑ The Institutional Research function joined DSS in FY97
- ❑ DSS was transferred to the VP for Budget in about FY01
- ❑ IR at Stanford centralized in summer 2008; group re-named IR&DS
- ❑ Assessment and Program Evaluation function added in summer 2008
- ❑ Business Intelligence function added in 2010

The three functions of IR&DS

- Institutional Research
- Assessment and Program Evaluation
- Decision Support Services



Institutional Research

- Definition: Institutional Research, or IR, facilitates and provides context for institutional decision making at Stanford by providing analytical support and facilitating access to data. IR is also responsible for conducting policy analysis and social science research, and publishing reports that provide insight into the performance of the institution.
- Examples of reports
 - Department Profiles
 - US News
 - IPEDS (government reporting)
 - Teaching activity
 - Populations
 - Statistics Books
 - Enrollment and degrees
- Survey research
- Data sharing consortia for comparative data
- Faculty statistics, tenure analysis, salary surveys

Current Survey Research



- Ongoing surveys:
 - Senior exit survey
 - PhD student exit survey
- Accreditation surveys – Class of 2012
 - Pre-freshman survey
 - Freshman exit survey
 - Sophomore exit survey
 - Junior exit survey
 - Overseas studies before/after surveys
 - Undergraduate research survey
 - Stanford in Washington focus groups
 - Ongoing surveys of the Class of 2012
- Other surveys
 - Alumni survey of the Class of 1998
 - Judicial Affairs Honor Code survey

Decision Support Services



- ❑ IR&DS provides users access to data to create their own reports as they need them. The Decision Support Services Team within IR&DS has created and maintains its own datamart (called the Decision Support System: DSS)
- ❑ DSS contains financial, faculty, student, staff, and research data
- ❑ Tool of choice is Business Objects (desktop version)
- ❑ 300+ users
- ❑ Eventual migration to OBIEE

Assessment and Program Evaluation



- Learning outcomes assessment
- Program evaluation – VPUE, Student Affairs
- Program Review
- WASC accreditation

Our website



- Type “irds” into your browser
- Contains reports, advice, tool downloads, newsletters
- Contact info
- Quick links to fact book, enrollment, Common Data Set, etc.
- Let me know if you have suggestions for content

Future enhancements



- Revised department profiles (Phase I done)
- Faculty datamart (done) and “frozen files” (done)
- Wiki for definitions and data sources, tools tips and tricks (in process)
- Teaching activity reports and ad hoc access
- Executive/managerial dashboards – research dashboard is complete, HR dashboard in progress
- Survey research datamart and dashboard
- Historical enrollment reports on website (Registrar’s Office)
- HEOA requirements (done)
- Data Governance structure