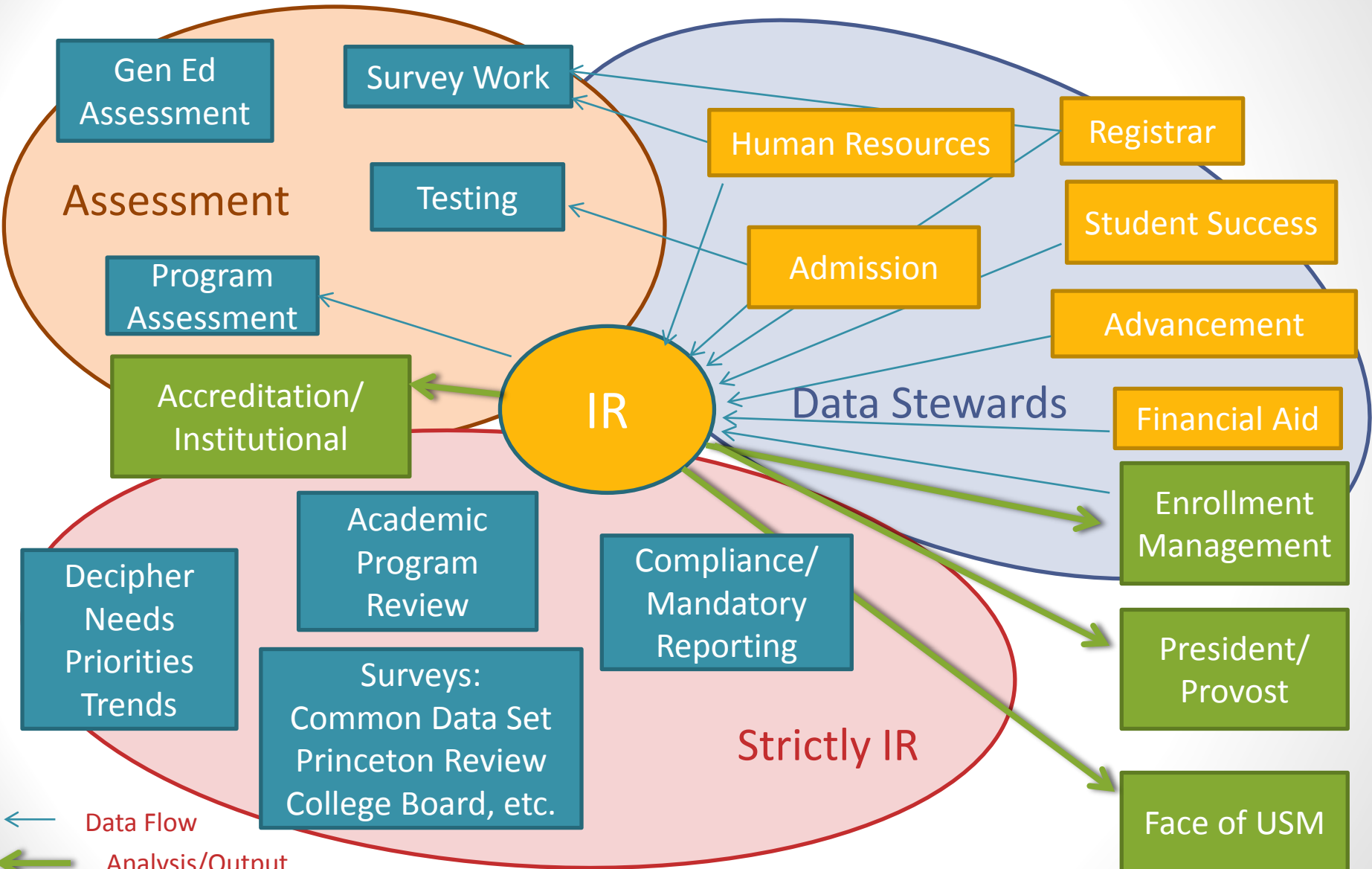


# Network of USM Information Flow



Functions    Depts    Impacts

# Office of Institutional Research

## Current Approach and Core Functions

### ***Approach***

IR is the “census bureau” of the university. It presents the public face of the university’s institutional data. Working with decision makers and other interested internal parties, IR provides research and analysis to support policy-making within the university. Analyses are based on periodic census dates, allowing for **consistent trend analysis and comparison with other institutions**. OIR works collaboratively with the Network (see chart “Network of USM Information Flow”) of USM Data Stewards and Assessment to provide the most accurate view of USM to its’ President and Provost; Enrollment Management; and the external Public Face of USM.

### ***Compliance/Mandatory Reporting***

- IPEDS
- NEASC
- NCAA
- PEDS
- CGS/GRE
- HEOA

### ***"Optional" Reporting***

- Common Data Set (CDS)
- Princeton Review
- Peterson’s Survey
- US News & World Report
- CSRDE
- MELMAC
- College Board Annual Survey of Colleges
- Wintergreen Orchard House
- Student Achievement Measure (SAM)
- NSF-NIH

### ***Internal Products***

USM Factbook, Academic Program Reviews, “By the Numbers,” Fall and Spring GPA Report, GIS-based analysis, Ad-hoc reporting & analysis, **Report Repository**

### ***Institutional Services***

USM IR serves as a member of the UMS Data Warehouse (DW) implementation team, and of the USM Enrollment Council. IR collaborates with various data stewards (in HR, Admission, Financial Aid, etc.) to ensure the consistency of USM’s data. IR works with community members to **hone their research questions**, and helps them to understand and interpret our data to address policy questions. When addressing a particular research question, **we seek to make the analysis or output as useful as possible to as broad an audience as possible**.

### ***Single point of contact to all data stewards***

In a networked model, IR acts as a single point of contact for the information requests of the USM community. If IR cannot fulfill an information request directly, we will forward the request on to the appropriate data steward. **This allows for consistency and standardization of our public information, in addition to keeping separate offices connected.**

### ***OIR Links***

- <http://usm.maine.edu/oir>
- <http://usm.maine.edu/oir/usm-factbook>
- <http://usm.maine.edu/oir/common-data-set>
- <http://usm.maine.edu/oir/numbers>
- <http://usm.maine.edu/oir/surveys>
- <http://usm.maine.edu/oir/ipeds>