Summer 2013 Updates

The following is an update of new information provided by the USM’s Office of Institutional Research (OIR). Our aim is to help you become more familiar with our site and the information within.

Name Change

Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA) no longer exists. Academic Assessment and Institutional Research are still under the Provost Office but we are separate. Our website has been changed to reflect this. Please change your bookmarks/favorites to http://www.usm.maine.edu/oir.

Where to Find Information

Check out the new link on the OIR website – “Where to Find...” under the “Quick Links” section of our site http://usm.maine.edu/oir/where-find-information. We have organized that page by category of analyses rather than Academic Year. Interested in ethnicity breakdowns? Check out the By Ethnicity section and the list of ethnicity reports that we have put out there. Interested in age breakdowns? Check out the By Age section and the list of age reports that we have put out there. And so on!

Looking for data?

Ever wonder who to call to get a certain piece of information? We now have a “Point of Contact” (POC) for data requests. The POC will “point” you in the right direction as to where that information is housed or will forward your request to the appropriate office. Complete the following form on the OIR site http://www.usm.maine.edu/oir/information-request.

Winter Session (Factbook 2012 – 2013)

We have been working closely with University Outreach in providing Winter Session Headcount AND Enrollment Count reports with Student Credit Hours. At the very bottom of the 2012 – 2013 Factbook http://usm.maine.edu/oir/2012-2013-Factbook there is a “Winter Session” section. University Outreach identified what they consider to be their key categories and we broke the data down for them in the Winter Session section.

Retention Rates (Factbook 2012 – 2013)

We have updated the “Fall 2011 to Fall 2012” AND “Fall 2012 to Spring 2013” retention rates for Fall Cohorts. These can be found in the 2012 – 2013 Factbook and include breakdowns by Academic Plan.

Student Credit Hour Reports (Factbook 2012 – 2013)

We have updated the Enrollment section to include Student Credit Hours by Degree and by College, School and Degree. Many have asked for this information in their respective areas and we felt the need to put the information out there for all to access at any time.
Research Studies

The “Research Studies” section contains the newly released Maine Community College Student Transfers Academic Profile Study. This study looks at students who transferred to USM earning an AA or an AS at one of Maine’s Community Colleges. A thorough review of the findings of the 75 students and their academic profiles are reported in this study.

Network of Information

The Provost has recently formed the Data Network Group so that information flows consistently into the Institution and from the Institution. Institutional Research has been charged to lead this group. The flowchart [http://usm.maine.edu/sites/default/files/oir/Network_of_USM_Information_Flow.pdf](http://usm.maine.edu/sites/default/files/oir/Network_of_USM_Information_Flow.pdf) illustrates the 3 Main Data User Groups (Assessment, Enrollment Management and its Functional Data Stewards, and IR). We are working to bring together all the information that the Data Stewards produce and consistently report all information which impacts the Face of USM, the President/Provost decision-making, Enrollment Management and Accreditation. The flip side of the flowchart explains what the current Institutional Research Core Functions are in providing information to our institution.

Common Data Set (CDS)! What is THAT, anyway?

The CDS is a set of questions that EVERY institution has to answer so that ALL institutions can be compared EQUALLY to one another, apples to apples. There are standard definitions and standard questions that are asked in the CDS. We now have the past three years on-line [http://usm.maine.edu/oir/common-data-set](http://usm.maine.edu/oir/common-data-set)! Check it out: Admission, Enrollment, Persistence, Student Life, Annual Expenses, Financial Aid, Class Size, Instructional Faculty, and Degrees Conferred. All at your fingertips!

By the Numbers

By the Numbers is almost ready [http://www.usm.maine.edu/oir/usm-numbers](http://www.usm.maine.edu/oir/usm-numbers). Last year, we released our first publication of By the Numbers at the Opening Breakfast. We are shooting to have this out VERY soon.

Survey Responses

We have added to the OIR website copies of the surveys that we fill out and have conveniently placed them under the Resource section labeled “Surveys”. This will give you a first-hand look at what information is requested by each survey and how USM has answered non-CDS questions. Just to name a few: College Board Annual Survey of Colleges, Princeton Review, Peterson’s Survey, US News & World Report, Consortium for Student Retention Data Exchange (CSRDE) (First-Time Full-Time, Transfer and STEM), NCAA, etc.