

## MAKING SUMMERTIME COUNT!



"How do you want that data?"

## Life in the IR: News You Can Use

**Data...  
Data...  
More Data!**  
We've got you  
covered.

Office of Institutional  
Research & Effectiveness

July/August 2016

## SUMMER SIZZLE FOR A DATA-FILLED FALL

[www.pvamu.edu/ir](http://www.pvamu.edu/ir)

### Summer Activities

While some are enjoying your summer off or a few days of rest and relaxation, the IR staff is working hard to develop new processes and data sources to make life better for all of us in the fall. We are all about efficiency and effectiveness! We spend summers reviewing current processes/procedures, looking for overlap in data requests over the past year, and checking for gaps in existing data sources to see how we may improve the services we provide in the future. We have identified areas where we can do even more to provide you with the excellent service we constantly strive to deliver to our customers. We are excited about the challenges and changes ahead and hope you will embrace them with the spirit with which they were born.

### Next Up: Grades Dashboard



Opportunities still exist for new dashboards, and we continue to provide you with more data at your fingertips as we identify unmet needs. The most recent addition is the "Grade Distribution" dashboard which presents a summary of grades by college, department, level, course type, and CRN. The dashboard includes summaries of the percent of students who finished courses and the percent who earned a grade of A-C. Users also have several filter options including course and subject.

### Unit Program Reviews

Since dashboards create standard outputs of certified data, we have been charged with developing data dashboards to provide units with the standard data they need to complete Program Review Reports. Initial planning is underway with Program Review Dashboards expected to be completed in three phases with dates ranging from mid-August through mid-October. Expect more specifics later.

**YOU ARE GETTING BETTER.** In May and June, 56% of requests were received using our [Data Request Forms](#). Thanks for your help in moving us in the right direction.

### Got Data?

Does your unit complete annual reports, surveys, or compliance reports to agencies to which it is accountable for reporting? If so, we would like to hear from you. Our office completes about fifty (50) surveys each year. There are some questions we cannot answer, but we believe some of you may know. To help "close the University data gap" we are asking you to share a copy of your surveys or reports with us. We will maintain a copy for our records and use the information based on our reporting needs. If you want to verify in advance that your data would be helpful, give us a call at Ext. 2188.

### Argos Offers New Possibilities

The Office of IR is in the process of acquiring access to new software that will enable us to offer you access to current, operational data to help guide data-driven decisions. We expect to use the reporting tool to deliver quick and relevant reports when you want it with "close to" real-time data—data that is usually refreshed daily. These will replace most of the reports that are now on the Institutional Reports share drive. As Argos designs begin, we will provide more details.

### Unit Data Changes

The Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness is involved in almost every aspect of University data. For that reason, it is imperative that we are aware of potential data changes before they happen. While changes in Banner are most important—changes in courses, programs, CIP codes, campus codes, admit codes, award codes, etc.—we also need to know if you have dean, department chair, or other personnel changes for those who provide data to IR. Whenever possible, we want to come to the table with you in the planning stages to help make the transition from planning and implementation to data retrieval as seamless as possible.

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