How to Use “Excel Power View” for Institutional Effectiveness

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About Our Office

• Campus Enrollment approx. 8500

• Institutional Planning, Assessment & Research (IPAR) reports to AVP of Academic Affairs

• Data Service Team reports to Information Technology Services (ITS)
Institutional Context

- Increased attention to data that supports institutional assessment and planning
- Need for quick exploration of large amount of complex data from disparate data sources
- Limited resources to adopt a comprehensive BI tool
- Institutional access to Microsoft products
- Well-established collaborative relationship between IR and IT Data Service functions
How To PV for IE

Institutional Strategic Planning, Implementation & Assessment

Source: http://datajournalismhandbook.org/1.0/en/understanding_data_7.html
Microsoft loves POWER!

PowerShell
PowerPivot
Power Query
Power BI
Power View

AT DAWN
WE RIDE
What is Power View?

• New visualization functionality for Excel: charting, graphing, mapping, and more

• An extension of the “Data Model” used for PowerPivot

• Office Professional Plus 2013 includes Power View (for the desktop)

• Certain flavors of Office 365 (“Office in the Cloud”) support online presentation of Power View
At WSU, our team is:

- Familiar with SQL programming
- Familiar with institutional data sources
- Comfortable with readily available Microsoft technologies: Excel, SQL, SharePoint, Office 365
Demo: Power View Setup
Effective Data Exploration with PV

- Critical to start with a general question
- Learn basic visualization procedures (basically, drag, click, more clicking....)
- Creative about continuous variables (e.g., GPA, credit hours earned, etc.)
- Can use filters to “clean” data
- Use pie charts for a quick comparison
- Take time for exploration before sharing with a broader audience
Demo: Cumulative Credit Hours by College/Program and Post-Grad Status 1.
Demo: Cumulative Credit Hours by College/Program and Post-Grad Status 2.

Graphs showing cumulative credit hours earned by award year from 2007 to 2012. A pie chart indicates the distribution of students by GrfStatusGroup (continuing ed., employed, no response, unemployed).

Bar charts for distinct headcount by college, showing bars for College of Business, College of Education, College of Liberal Arts, College of Nursing & Health Sciences, and College of Science & Engineering.
Demo: Cumulative Credit Hours by College/Program and Post-Grad Status 3.
Post-Graduate Success (Bachelor’s), 2007-2012
Advantages and Challenges

Advantages
- Quicker and more flexible data exploration
- Intuitive
- Portable
- No new software purchase needed

Challenges
- Needs IT infrastructural capacity for optimal use
- Needs technical assistance for optimal use
- If careless or uninformed, one can draw wrong conclusion
Thank you!

Questions and Comments?

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