Where's the Training?

Opportunities for Professional Development in Institutional Research

Presented at TAIR 2014 G. Marc Turner, PhD



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Career Path in Institutional Research



Knowledge and Skills

Adapted from Daly, R. (2013, November). 6 Stages of Growth for the IR Professional. Presentation at California Association of Institutional Research Annual Conference, Napa, CA.

Knowledge & Skills

Technical Knowledge & Skills

- Data Analysis
- Programming
- Software familiarity
- Presentation skills (both written and oral)

Institutional Knowledge & Skills

- Administration and Faculty
- Budgeting Process
- Resource Management



Graduate Certificates and Programs

- Penn State
 - 15 hours, \$2283/course
- University of Missouri-St. Louis
 - 18 hours, \$1400/course
- Florida State University
 - 18 hours, \$1500/course
- Humboldt State University
 - 12 hours, \$1200/course
- University of Illinois at Chicago
 - 12 hours, \$2331/course
- And others
 - Sometimes included as part of a Masters or Doctoral program



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Common Certificate Courses

Introduction to Institutional Research

 History of IR, national datasets, overview of student outcome assessment, accreditation issues

Introductory Statistics course

- Descriptive, ANOVAs, Chi-Square, Regression*
- Introductory Research Methods course
 - Quantitative & Qualitative methods, sampling, basics of measurement theory
- Issues in Higher Education
 - Faculty workload, student assessment, policies, planning, resource management, legal issues, etc.



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Association Face-to-Face

✤ AIR

- Annual Conference
- Professional Development Institutes
- IPEDS Workshops
- ✤ TAIR
 - Annual Conference
 - Summer Workshops
- ✤ SAIR
 - Annual Conference



Association On-Line

✤ AIR (<u>www.airweb.org</u>)

- IPEDS Video Tutorials
- Data & Decisions Academy
- AIR Webinar Series
- AIR E-Library (included with membership?)
- TAIR (<u>www.texas-air.org</u>)
 - Data Dictionary
- ✤ SAIR (<u>www.sair.org</u>)



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On-Line Communities

LinkedIn

- Association of Institutional Research (AIR)
- Texas Association of Institutional Research (TAIR)
- Southern Association of Institutional Research (SAIR)

✤ Twitter

- #HiEdData (just started 2/13/2014)

Mailing lists

- TAIR mailing list
- Others?

Books, Manuals, & More

- Reporting Manuals (e.g. THECB manuals)
- New Directions for Institutional Research series (Jossey-Bass)
- Howard, McLaughlin, & Knight (2012). Handbook of Institutional Research. Jossey-Bass.
- Other books on Higher Education
 - administration, planning, policy, research, etc.



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Other Training Resources

On-line video tutorials

- Presentation skills
- Data Analysis
- Software training

Free on-line courses

- Though very few directly related to IR
- Coursera.org
 - Lists courses from various institutions/organizations
 - Includes courses on higher education & statistics



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Institutional Knowledge

- Become active on your campus
- Join committees
- Take advantage of professional development and training offerings when possible
 - Even if not directly related, helps introduce you to other areas of the University



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What else?

- What other professional development opportunities do you know about?
- What are some professional development opportunities would you like to see?



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