2012

The Office of Institutional Research Annual Accountability Report Accomplishments and Challenges

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INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Office of Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) is to increase university effectiveness by providing and promoting information to enhance understanding of the institution. Fulfilling this mission, IRP supports assessment, policy formulation, and decision-making through its major functions, which are to:

- Collect and preserve data
- Work with other campus offices to ensure data reliability and consistency
- Analyze, and interpret institutional and higher education data, including benchmarking with peer institutions
- Develop systems, methodologies and tools for effective analysis
- Develop print and web-based informational resources with a schedule of periodic institutional analyses and surveys as well as statistical and narrative reports
- Design and produce routine and ad hoc reports
- Support assessment and accreditation processes by assisting academic areas to develop measures of educational effectiveness and improvement, providing support in research and survey design, and coordinating accreditation reporting

GOAL 1: SUSTAIN CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY AND RELEVANCE OF OUR GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Historical data files are maintained on student enrollments, graduation, demographics and other key indicators
- Benchmarking data are collected for peer institutions on student enrollments, graduation, demographics and other key indicators
- Surveys are conducted on student engagement and program assessment to assess the quality and relevance of NPS educational programs
- Data are obtained on academic scholarship to assess the quality, relevance and scope of NPS research
- Faculty productivity data are gathered for NPS and peer institutions to provide a benchmark for evaluation
- Graduation and time-to-degree rates for resident and distributed learning students are evaluated to measure trends

GOAL 2: EXTEND EDUCATION TO THE TOTAL FORCE AND TO OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS

- Metrics are provided for NPS print publications and web-based communications that are marketed to external audiences
- Enrollment and degrees for residential and distributed learning courses for international students are tracked to measure trends

GOAL 3: BROADEN RESEARCH IN NATIONAL SECURITY

- The number of national security-related patents and Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) are tracked to measure trends
- Research dollars by source, category and school are tracked to measure trends

GOAL 4: SEEK OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL, BUSINESS, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT AREAS

- Historical data on budget expenditures, research dollars, library and information technology metrics are collected and maintained
- Periodic quarterly and annual reports are produced on student satisfaction with financial, business, administrative and support areas
- A Strategic Planning SharePoint site is updated and maintained

SURVEYS

IRP supports NPS and its leadership, faculty, staff, and students through survey design, administration, reporting and specialized assistance.

INTERNAL SURVEYS: FY2012 GOALS

- Administer quarterly the Graduating Students Survey
- Develop and produce the Graduating Students Survey item response frequencies for NPS support services
- Administer the Alumni Survey
- Administer the Master of Science in Electrical Engineering Surveys to faculty and students
- Administer the New Student and Mid-Program Student Surveys
- Report, as appropriate, results of all internal surveys

As a primary, recurring task of IRP, all surveys noted in the FY2013 goals were issued, analyzed and summarized, except for the New Student and Mid-Program Student Surveys, which, due to personnel changes and shortages within the department, will be moved as a goal to FY2013.

Both the Graduating Students and Alumni Surveys (the latter issued to 2002, 2007 and 2010 graduates only), reflect respondents' opinions about their NPS experience in the areas of curriculum, faculty, classroom/lab facilities, library and support services. Results identified strengths and potential areas of improvement for each category.

The Graduating Students Surveys were administered quarterly and summary reports containing survey response frequencies for NPS support services were also updated for FY2007-2012.

The 2012 Graduating Students Survey data file, its modified version (Dudley Knox Library items), and summary reports were completed for resident and distributed learning students by school, item response frequencies and support services breakdowns for all (resident) items. The results were posted on the Strategic Planning SharePoint site.

The Alumni Survey for FY2012 was administered to 2,329 alumni to late FY2012; the response rate was 18%. Summary reports for the Alumni Surveys were issued to the appropriate constituencies and were posted on the Strategic Planning SharePoint site. The "Alumni Survey Trends Report", distributed to campus leaders and posted on the Strategic Planning SharePoint site, was developed by analyzing answers from 505 alumni from all branches of the services about the relevancy, effectiveness and applicability of a NPS education to respondents' careers.

IRP administered quarterly both the Masters of Science in Electrical Engineering (MSEE) Faculty and Student Surveys, which supported assessments of the MSEE degree program in achieving learning outcomes. Summaries of both surveys were sent to the chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Additional internal surveys administered by IRP:

- Academic Restructuring Committee Survey, which assessed potential restructuring and/or consolidation of academic and administrative capacities in the Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and the Graduate School of Operational and Information Sciences
- Active Duty Spouses Survey, which assessed spouses' interest in obtaining an education from NPS
- The Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology-related MSSE Employers Survey 2012, which gauged the effectiveness of the NPS MSSE degree program by surveying key command supervisors of NPS alumni

EXTERNAL SURVEYS: FY2012 GOALS

- Complete all external surveys: Integrated Postsecondary Education Database System, the American Society for Engineering Education and the National Science Foundation Research and Development Expenditures Survey
- Report, as appropriate, results of all external surveys

In FY2012, IRP administered and reported the results of all external surveys listed in their goals. Submitted were an annual series of surveys on Institutional Characteristics, Compleions, and 12-Month Enrollments for the federal Integrated Postsecondary Education Database System (IPEDS) fall through spring 2012 data collections; the American Society for Engineering Education's Faculty Salary Survey 2011, which compared the average, median, upper deciles/quartile and lower deciles/quartile salaries of NPS tenure and tenure-track engineering faculty with peer institutions; and the National Science Foundations, 2011 Research and Development Expenditures Survey.
**INSTITUTIONAL METRICS: FY2012 GOALS**
- Update strategic plan metrics annually

As part of IRP's ongoing functions, metrics for the strategic plan were updated annually.

**INSTITUTIONAL METRICS: FY2013 GOALS**
- Update strategic plan metrics annually
- Increase awareness of IRP and its services

**REPORTS/ANALYSES**
IRP produces standard and customized reports for campus constituents using data derived from survey research, historical data files and institutional metrics. Analyses serve as measures of educational effectiveness, support assessments and decision-making within specific programs and departments, highlight NPS accomplishments, and provide benchmarking data and historical trends.

**REPORTS/ANALYSES: FY2012 GOALS**
- Update the "2012 Command Brief" quarterly
- Provide data for the "NPS Annual Report" for 2012 and 2013, the "NPS Fact Book" and "NPS Fact Book-at-a-Glance"
- Publish the "NPS Fact Book" and "NPS Fact Book-at-a-Glance" and "NPS Fact Sheet"
- Update all graduation rate reports
- Update the "Graduating Students Survey Newsletter" AY2007–2012
- Develop and produce an "Alumni Survey Newsletter" AY2008–2011
- Publish periodic reports to the campus on special analyses

In FY2012, IRP met and exceeded its report-related goals. The "2012 Command Brief" was updated quarterly with revised enrollment data for all resident and distributed learning students, and distributed to key stakeholders and posted on the nps.edu site.

**REPORTS/ANALYSES: FY2013 GOALS**
- Update the "2013 Command Brief" quarterly
- Provide data for the "NPS Annual Report" for 2013, the "NPS Fact Book" and "NPS Fact Book-at-a-Glance"
- Publish the "NPS Fact Book" and "NPS Fact Book-at-a-Glance" and "NPS Fact Sheet"
- Update all graduation rate reports
- Update the "Graduating Students Survey Newsletter" AY2007–2012
- Develop and produce an "Alumni Survey Newsletter" AY2008–2011
- Publish periodic reports to the campus on special analyses
IRP updated the NPS degree list file and data table that identifies all degree and certificate curricula and associated degrees, which was used in the "Western Association of Schools and Colleges Annual Report." For ease-of-use within the Python database, IRP developed the "Data Element Dictionary" for that system.

In FY2012, IRP completed its part of the data warehouse project by identifying, developing and extensively testing key data structures and fields within the Python database, thereby supporting the development of a viable NPS data warehouse from which data can be accessed and/or retrieved.

Additional data files developed and/or completed by IRP:
- The updated 2011 faculty data file, with enhanced data fields and faculty titles, used for the "NPS Fact Book" and for reporting to IPEDS
- Data provided by Defense Manpower Data Center for flag officers and SES civilians, used to mail quarterly publications

**DATA FILES: FY2013 GOALS**
- Collect and store quarterly student data
- Update degrees conferred by AV and type of enrollment table
- Provide support as needed for the data warehouse

**AD HOC REQUESTS**
IRP is the primary resource for specialized data provided through ad hoc requests from various constituents.

**AD HOC REQUESTS: FY2012 GOALS**
- Conduct ad hoc analyses

In FY2012, IRP conducted the following ad hoc analyses for various NPS stakeholders:

**Naval Postgraduate School**
- Updated student, faculty, and program data for the NPS Today Overview briefing for General Douglas Fraser, USAF, Commander, U.S. Southern Command
- Average on board and peak-quarter enrollment data
- Curricula program start history and number of graduates
- Degrees conferred by curriculum and AV
- Degrees conferred by graduates of Hispanic/Latino race
- Degrees conferred by program for AY2011
- Degrees conferred — PAD AV AY2011
- Degrees conferred with thesis titles for AY2011 Q4
- Distributed Learning: CQPR by Cohort Year and School
- Dudley Knox Library (licensing): 2011 FTEs for faculty/student/staff by titles and schools
- Information Technology and Communications Services: Faculty FTE (for software licensing)
- German student enrollments AY2012/3
- Student graduation records prior to AY2000
- Student enrollments and number of faculty AY2011

**Alumni Relations Office**
- Alumni transcript requests
- Hall of Fame and Distinguished Alumni AY2011
- NPS degree data on specific alumni
- Turkish alumni student data

**Graduate School of Business and Public Policy**
- Student, faculty, and staff diversity demographics (for accreditation)

**Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Sciences**
- Electrical and Computer Engineering: Data from the Alumni Survey 2011
- Graduates for distributed learning degree program with command name for military, civilian, and contractor students
- Space Systems: Degrees conferred by designator
- Systems Engineering: Degrees conferred by gradation year and demographics

**Graduate School of Operational and Information Sciences**

**Information Technology and Communications Services**
- Full-time equivalent data for renewal of software license

**Protocol/Institutional Relations**
- Demographic data for summer quarter graduating students

**Research Office**
- "NPS Fact Book" for 2012 graphs and AY2011 degrees conferred by thesis type

**United States Navy**
- Data on NPS faculty, student, and educational training budget information was provided to OPNAV, N1Z
- Reserve graduates with a Masters in Systems Analysis, PERSCOM

**Other Services**
- United States Air Force: Service and civilian enrollment and graduation data by specific curricula, AY2000–2011
- United States Army: Resident degree enrollments by curriculum, AY2012/3
- United States Coast Guard: Student enrollments
- United States Marine Corps: Resident student enrollments

**CONCLUSION**
IRP developed new products with high utility to NPS leadership, and met its goal of producing a number of special analyses to help measure, assess and profile critical issues and variables regarding historical data that affect students, faculty, and NPS programs. Through analytical research, IRP helped to promote information which highlights NPS's ability to produce and provide a unique and valued education, and to provide NPS leaders with concrete, viable data for policy-formation and decision-making.

The requirements of IRP resulted in a heavy workload that increases annually; therefore, establishing a permanent civilian position within the department is critical to meeting the regular and increasing demands for the campus-wide services provided by the department. Due to the impending retirement of IRP staff beginning October 1, 2012, a position for IR Director was posted nationwide within the IR professional and higher education organizations, from which a highly-qualified applicant will be chosen early in FY13.

**AD HOC REQUESTS: FY2013 GOALS**
- Conduct ad hoc analyses