

Improving Student Financial Aid  
Research in the IR Office—  
Current Efforts at Bowling Green  
State University

# Presenters:

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# Presentation Objectives:

1. Discuss rationale for assessing the impact or outcomes of institutionally funded aid programs on student enrollment decisions.
2. Review the role of institutional research in the financial aid assessment process.
3. Review the process followed at BGSU and discuss issues and challenges.
4. Review findings to date.

# About Bowling Green State University

1. State assisted, residential, Doctoral-Research Intensive university located in Bowling Green, Ohio with a branch campus in Huron, Ohio.
2. Over 19,500 students (16,800 undergraduate and 2,700 graduate).
3. Degree offerings from associate degree through the PhD.
4. [% students receiving aid and volume of aid dispersed; all types]

# About BGSU's IR Office

1. Comprehensive office of decision support that carries out routine and ad hoc, internal, and external, longitudinal and comparative studies of the University's operations and the environment in which it functions.
2. Re-established in 1996
3. Four full-time professional staff
4. Reports to both VP for Finance and Administration and President.

# Overview of the Assessment Effort:

1. Institutional motivation for assessment of student financial aid funding.
2. Gaining support for project.
3. Review assessment process flow
4. Developing the assessment data base
5. Phase One—examining BGSU student financial aid at fund record level
6. Phase Two—Examining BGSU student financial aid at a student record level

# Developing the Financial Aid Assessment Data Base

1. Overview of BGSU's IR technology environment.
2. Need to extract data from legacy systems.
3. Development of a financial aid data extract, process for importing data, joining data with other student data sets.
4. Use of SAS and Excel as primary statistical and simulation tools

# Current Project Status, Issues and Findings

# Related Initiatives and Future Directions

# Questions, Answers, and Concluding Remarks