INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND DECISION SUPPORT

Institutional Research and Decision Support (IRADS) is the source of official university statistics. IRADS equips administrators, staff and faculty with data to support planning, policy development and decision making to advance student success and further the overall mission of the university. IRADS staff serve as data coaches and consultants partnering with the Chapman community to gather, interpret and transform data into insightful and actionable information for informed decision making.

MISSION

To serve the Chapman community by providing accurate, timely and actionable data that facilitates informed decisions and improves student success.

VISION

To help all members of the Chapman community be informed decision-makers who are insightful, curious and proactive.

To empower information and data users across campus to identify opportunities for meaningful change and improvement.

HISTORY

The institutional research function was formally established in 2001 with the hiring of a director and the creation of Chapman's Institutional Research Office (CIRO) within the Office of the Provost.

WHY A NAME CHANGE?

The institutional research office is evolving and keeping pace with the most recent models, trends, and innovations for practitioners in the field. The demand for data to inform decisions is greater than ever before. Technology has changed all aspects of higher education, including institutional research. Chapman University, like many colleges and universities across the United States, has significantly increased its capacity to collect and store information, as well as to make data available quickly through tools like Panther Analytics. The name change reflects our forward-thinking vision, desire to work collaboratively, and commitment to help the campus community convert institutional data into the actionable information needed to make informed decisions.

WHAT IS DECISION SUPPORT?

Decision support focuses on helping a broad range of institutional stakeholders find timely and actionable data or information to make sound and informed business decisions, solve problems or make short- or long-term plans to support student success and institutional effectiveness. To that end, IRADS will:

• Participate collaboratively in the decision-making process.

How? Ask more questions about the issue(s) you are dealing with, problem(s) you are trying to solve, and decision(s) you are trying to make. Build a stronger relationship and collaboration with you, your office or department.

• Foster/cultivate a data culture at Chapman University.

How? Offer brown bags and workshops that will engage the campus community in data-focused discussions.

Proactively engage with the campus community.

How? Attend meetings with decision-makers and make ourselves available to initial planning meetings with the focus of anticipating data needs. Initiate more data-focused initiatives/projects.

Standard 4.2: The institution has institutional research capacity consistent with its purposes and characteristics. Data are disseminated internally and externally in a timely manner, and analyzed, interpreted, and incorporated in institutional review, planning, and decision-making. Periodic reviews are conducted to ensure the effectiveness of the institutional research function and the suitability and usefulness of the data generated.



STAFI

IRADS is staffed by 3 FTE and 2 student workers. All full-time staff are members of the Association for Institutional Research (AIR), a national professional organization that sets standards for IR professionals and provides opportunities for professional development and skill development.



WHAT WE DO

- Support decision making, planning, institutional effectiveness, policy formulation through collaborations and organizing, analyzing, interpreting, and disseminating institutional information
- Administer and analyze institutional-level survey research
- Respond to internal data requests
- Calculate official retention and graduation rates for the university
- Complete external federal, marketing and ranking surveys









CHAPMAN.EDU/IRADS

DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS & SERVICES

SURVEYS

Chapman's comprehensive survey schedule includes "home grown" surveys and national benchmarking surveys for students, staff and faculty. Results are shared with senior administration and the wider campus community to use for planning, decision-making, and to inform committee work. All surveys are scheduled on the *Master Calendar of Survey Activity* maintained by IRADS.







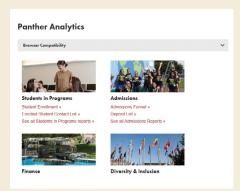




INSTITUTIONAL DATA RESOURCES



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HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2019, an office satisfaction/needs assessment survey was administered to explore the effectiveness of the institutional research function, the usefulness of the data generated, and to explore needs of the campus.

- **78%** The information received is dependable. (Percent "Agree- or "Agree Strongly")
- 78% The information received is useful for decision making. (Percent "Agree" or "Agree Strongly")
- 86% Staff are knowledgeable. (Percent "Agree" or "Agree Strongly")
- **84%** Staff are courteous and friendly.

 (Percent "Agree" or "Agree Strongly")
- 46% Have used CU's Student Services
 Satisfaction Survey results for
 planning, decision making,
 assessment, accreditation, and/or
 marketing/promotion.

Overall Satisfaction: 89%

(Percent "Very Satisfied," "Satisfied," or "Somewhat Satisfied")

IRADS STAFF

Marisol Arredondo Samson, Ph.D. Director

Robert Pankey Assistant Director

Assistant Director

Carlos Lopez, Ph.D. Senior Analyst

FIND US IN VON NEUMANN HALL 545 West Palm



OFFICE HOURS

IRADS holds office hours regularly. Bring a draft of your survey, data tables, program review questions, or come by to talk to us about a project you anticipate may require some data/survey. To RSVP for office hours, request a meeting with an IRADS team member, or invite us to one of your department/office meetings, email irads@chapman.edu.

Visits to meet the team and get to know our services are welcome!