From the Executive Producer....

It’s Spring of 2013 and there are plenty of goings on in OIRE!

We have a new institutional Survey Working Group (SWG) with representatives from the Denver and Anschutz Medical Campuses. If you are planning an institutional survey of students, faculty, staff or alumni, please contact Dr. Christine Stroup-Benham. OIRE oversees institutional surveys in an effort to better coordinate survey administration timing, improve survey content, reduce survey fatigue, and enhance response rates. In addition, if you are developing a survey of your own for administration to any university constituency, Christine (or one of the other OIRE staff members) will be happy to consult with you. Also, a document outlining the survey consultative process and guidelines is available via the OIRE website.

The office will be conducting its annual strategic planning retreat June 7th and 14th. So be sure to complete our online survey for FY 2012-2013 each time you interact with OIRE or have a request fulfilled by our staff. All results that are produced by your completion of the FY13 survey are always available. We use these data to guide our strategic conversations and improve the office.

Many of you participate in COOP (Continuity of Operations Plan). Each year OIRE performs a COOP drill to ensure that we will be able to maintain operations in the event of an emergency or business disruption. Our COOP drill will be held on April 12th. We appreciate the support that our AMC Police Department provides during this drill!

This edition of NOIRE features Dave Deffenbacher, our Director. Dave has been with the office for more than 6 years and is such an asset to the office. He brings a wealth of technical and IR skill to the work, along with good humor and a helpful demeanor. Many of you are already acquainted with Dave, but may learn something new about him in our Staff Spotlight.

That’s a wrap!

Christine A. Stroup-Benham, Ph.D.
**Requesting Data from OIRE**

To quickly and efficiently submit a request to OIRE, please use our online Data Request Form. This allows your request not only to be received by our automated tracking system, but also directly emails one of our Research Coordinators for processing. (Tip: To make future requests even easier to submit, apply for a User Account, which will then allow the Data Request form to be pre-filled with your name and contact information.)

To ensure that we meet your needs, it is important that we receive your request **two to four weeks in advance of the date you require the information.** Please be assured that we will work with you when emergency requests arise; however, so that all customers enjoy the same level of service and projects/requests are appropriately prioritized, it is important that we know of your needs as far in advance as possible. Also, keep in mind that the online Report Library is an excellent resource for information.

- **Data Request Form**
- Main Phone: 303-315-2840
- IR Email: IR@UCDenver.edu

**Yet another way to provide feedback!** Many of the pages on the OIRE website have a link to a feedback form on which you can provide immediate comments/suggestions for a specific web page. This form is completely anonymous; however, you can choose to provide your name if you’d like to be contacted regarding the feedback you submit.

**FAQ:** What does state-funded vs. cash-funded mean?

When talking about reporting about students and credit hours, there are two populations that IR typically deals with.

The first population is what IR refers to as ‘state-funded’. Every year, the University receives appropriations from a state level that require IR to track and report on headcount and credit hour production of students identified as state reportable. The required reporting helps to ensure that the funds received are being distributed appropriately within the institution by looking at the ‘state reportable’ population impacted. These data are submitted to the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) for review.

The second population is ‘cash-funded’. Cash-funded typically refers to programs that are located within the colleges and schools of the institution and generate their own revenue. This means no additional monies or financial support are received from state entities. The money used to maintain the programs that are cash-funded are drawn from the students enrolled in the programs.

For reporting purposes, IR usually refers to state-funded as ‘main campus’ (formerly known as ‘D1/H1’). Cash-funded is usually explained as UCD’s ‘extended studies’ or (formerly known as ‘D2/H2’).

As with anything IR-related, there are some exceptions to these definitions. If you would like further information regarding state-funded vs. cash-funded, please contact the IR office at (303)315-2840. We will be happy to supply broader definitions and explain some of the exceptions that may be found within our institution.
Newsreel: National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)

One of CU Denver’s strategic priorities is to “deliver an outstanding and innovative educational experience.” Administering the NSSE (or National Survey of Student Engagement) allows the university to assess student experiences and identify areas for improvement and of excellence.

We’ve been working with a broad cross-section of academic and administrative units as well as student groups to increase awareness of the NSSE administration, what data are collected, and our hopes for utilizing and disseminating the resulting information.

A specific set of criteria are given for the initial population selection. Students invited to participate include both freshman and senior degree-seeking students enrolled in Fall 2012, who were anticipated to reenroll at the same student level in Spring 2013.

Our goal is to at least match the response rate achieved during the 2010 administration of the NSSE – 32%. As of this morning Monday, March 11th, our response rate is 26.1%.

Our thanks to all of the groups that are making the 2013 administration of the NSSE another success! We couldn’t have done it without you! We’d like to specifically thank Joe Halter, Gordon Hamby, John Lanning, Peggy Lore, and Samantha Moreno.

For more information, please visit the NSSE website.

Staff Spotlight: Dave Deffenbacher

Hello! Welcome to the Staff Spotlight…and thanks for reading all the way to the end!

I have been very fortunate to hold several positions within OIRE since starting here in 2006 – Senior Research Coordinator, Associate Director, and now Director. Prior to coming to UCD I was with the IR office at CU Boulder for four and a half years.

In all of these roles, my primary focus has been analyses and reporting of student data, from application to graduation. In addition to my work on specific projects, one of my major roles is to help other IR staff better understand the data and tools available to us and to help translate these data into usable information. Since moving into my current position my areas of oversight have expanded to include faculty and staff reporting.

I served on the team that implemented ISIS (the institution’s student information system) three years ago and continue to advise OIRE, campus departments, and the other CU IR offices on issues related to ISIS academic structure and reporting. If you need to make changes to the majors or courses offered within ISIS, chances are you’ll be working with me to make it happen.

I also help Dr. Stroup-Benham to oversee the operations of the department, especially those “behind-the-scenes” areas impacting our technology and data infrastructure.

Outside the office, you’ll probably find me skiing, biking, traveling, cooking, brewing beer, or hanging out with one of my two very silly black Labrador retrievers.