

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

IPEDS WORKSHOP - [downloadable version](#)

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2:45 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

WEST END BALLROOM SALON ABCD

Susan G. Broyles, IPEDS Program Director, Postsecondary Institutional Studies, National Center for Education Statistics

An overview of the IPEDS data collection and a look toward the future. IPEDS and NCES staff will also discuss the impact of new GASB standards, the new CIP and where we stand with race/ethnicity.

DEVELOPING A NATIONAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

DUPONT BALLROOM SALON FGH

Dennis P. Jones, President, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems

Good policymaking requires information that is both accurate and relevant to the decision making process. But, for a variety of reasons, the information base needed to meet the challenges posed by the emerging policy environment is comparatively underdeveloped. This is especially true for information about the clients/beneficiaries of higher education; less so for information about the institutional providers.

This presentation will:

1. Briefly describe a conceptual scheme for identifying the information needed for state-level policymaking.
2. Provide a summary of the information items that are—and are not—available.
3. Indicate steps being taken by NCHEMS and others to fill in the gaps and note the unfinished business.
4. Describe a project being undertaken by NCHEMS that will make information more readily available to policymakers and analysts.
5. Briefly demonstrate the functionality of the Website being developed to provide access to this information.

IPEDS WORKSHOP - [downloadable version](#)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 8:30 A.M. - NOON

WEST END BALLROOM SALON ABCD

Susan G. Broyles, IPEDS Program Director, Postsecondary Institutional Studies, National Center for Education Statistics

An overview of the IPEDS data collection and a look toward the future. IPEDS and NCES staff will also discuss the impact of new GASB standards, the new CIP and where we stand with race/ethnicity.

NELS2000 INSIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 1:30 P.M. - 2:15 P.M.

DUPONT BALLROOM FGH

Clifford Adelman, Senior Research Analyst, U.S. Department of Education

The upcoming NELS postsecondary transcript database (to be released in late August/early September) will change the way we talk about college-going in the United States. This presentation will preview variables you have never seen before in national data sets, indicate some major themes and story-lines, and provide some "best guesses" on the results.

TOOLS TO ACCESS NATIONAL DATA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2:30 P.M. - 4:05 P.M.

GEORGETOWN I

Samuel Barbett, Mathematical Statistician, National Center for Education Statistics
John H. Milam, Research Associate Professor, Curry School of Education, University of Virginia

The purpose of this workshop is to provide participants with a broad understanding of how to use the national datasets for institutional research, assessment, and planning. The primary focus will be on using institutional and sample survey datasets from NCES and NSF. Online resources such as the ANSWERS Web site, the IPEDS Peer Tool, IPEDS COOL, the NCES Data Analysis Systems (DAS), WebCASPAR, the NSF Academic Profiles, and SESTAT will be reviewed. Additional commercial and association datasets from AAUP, the College Board, US News, etc. will be discussed as time permits. Participants will learn about different approaches or lenses to use in finding needed data; including (1) topical; (2) source; (3) level of aggregation; (4) collection method; (5) time/date; and (6) what the user wants to do with the data—access/download versus use special analytical tools.

INFORMING PUBLIC POLICY CONVERSATIONS USING LINKED LONGITUDINAL ADMINISTRATIVE DATA SETS (LLADS)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2:30 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.

WEST END BALLROOM E

Ryan Monroe, University of Missouri
Donald Watson, Visiting Researcher, University of Missouri
John Wittstruck, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education, Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education

This presentation will highlight the innovative ways in which the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) uses linked longitudinal administrative data sets (LLADS) to inform research and education policy initiatives. These data were collected from 1987 through 2002 and are linked together using encrypted keyword identifiers. LLADS contain data from a variety of sources. These sources are the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, the MDHE, ACT, Inc., Missouri's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and Missouri Student Assistance Resource Services. Data from the LLADS are being used to inform policy decisions related to Missouri's Life Science initiative, student loan forgiveness and default prevention, grants and scholarships, teacher recruitment, retention, and quality, Missouri's K-16 initiative, and the evaluation of federal programs such as GEARUP.

CODIFYING KNOWLEDGE FROM NATIONAL STATISTICS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 3:20 A.M. - 4:05 P.M.

DUPONT BALLROOM FGH

Robert Sheehan, Associate Vice Chancellor for Performance Reporting and Analysis, Ohio Board of Regents

Each year (or budget cycle) are you reinventing your analysis of census data, and state financing data to assist you in comparing yourself to other states? Do you find yourself wondering "Now where did I put that Excel file with state and national ratings and rankings?" Are you (somewhat) inconsistent in filing your facts and factoids from month to month or year to year? Do you wish you had a web based mechanism for storing or retrieving information that you could share with the world, but restrict write-privileges to higher education system-level agencies such as your own? If so, join the club. None of us are as systematic in codifying knowledge as we might like to be. The presentation will present to participants a prototype to be used at both national and state levels for codifying, storing, and retrieving data facts and factoids in a fashion that is publicly accessible (read only) to all via the web and privately accessible (read/write) by SHEEO's and other related organizations.

NATIONAL POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COOPERATIVE (NPEC) NEXT STEPS

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 9:00 A.M. - 9:45 A.M.

WEST END BALLROOM SALON ABCD

Brenda Norman Albright, Executive Director, National Postsecondary Education Cooperative
Hans Brisch, Executive Director, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

The National Postsecondary Education Cooperative (NPEC) was authorized by Congress in 1994 to promote the quality, comparability, and utility of postsecondary education data and information at the national, state, and institutional level. Our dedication to providing "better data for better decisions" has led to the creation of products, such as written reports and web-based tools, designed to assist policymakers, institutional leaders, and education researchers in accessing and using quality data. This presentation will highlight selected NPEC products, including the Student Outcomes Sourcebook, Accessing National Surveys with Electronic Research Sources (ANSWERS), and the Access-Technology Report. A brief overview of NPEC's structure and history also will be discussed, as well as future directions.

THE NPEC SOURCEBOOK

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 10:00 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.

WEST END BALLROOM E

T. Dary Erwin, Director of Assessment and Professor of Psychology, James Madison University

How does one define and assess critical thinking, problem solving, and writing? This session illustrates a web-based resource in which the major collegiate assessment instruments in these areas are reviewed. Attendees to this session will be shown how to access and how to locate information about instrument scores, costs, reliability, and validity studies. Some tips about how to evaluate these instruments will also be discussed.

MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES ON DATA FOR DECISIONS—STATE AND NATIONAL

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 10:00 A.M. - 10:45 A.M.

DUPONT BALLROOM FGH

Travis Reindl, Assistant to the President, American Association of State Colleges and Universities

This interactive session, featuring a dialogue on "big picture" changes in the world of data for decisions (trends affecting data providers and consumers), offers points for surviving and thriving in that world. Additionally, preliminary results from a survey of college and university presidents regarding institutional research issues will be presented.

ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION—WHAT IS THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY?

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 10:50 A.M. - 11:35 A.M.

WEST END BALLROOM E

Ronald A. Phipps, Senior Associate, Maryland Institute for Higher Education Policy

At the request of the National Postsecondary Education Cooperative, the role of technology was explored with regard to access to postsecondary education. Based upon a bibliography of over 120 references, this report attempted to address the question: has the advent of technology in our colleges and universities and other emerging postsecondary education providers helped or hindered the ability of certain classes of people—such as racial/ethnic and low income groups—from enjoying the benefits of education beyond high school? This question engenders other corollary issues. To what extent do higher education students have access to technology-based learning, including access to faculty, information, and other learning experiences? Does the availability of computing resources or technology in secondary school affect access to postsecondary education? Indeed, how effective is technology in the learning process? Four themes were used to explore the relationship between technology and access: (1) access to postsecondary education in general; (2) access to technology-based learning; (3) preparation for using technology; and (4) effectiveness of technology in the teaching-learning process.

A NEW FINANCIAL AID UNIT RECORD SYSTEM

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 10:50 A.M. - 11:35 A.M.

DUPONT BALLROOM FGH

Michael J. Keller, Director of Policy Analysis & Research, Maryland Higher Education Commission

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has initiated an effort with the State's public and private colleges and universities to collect, maintain, and analyze unit record data for the purpose of monitoring the effectiveness of financial aid programs, particularly state scholarships, and their impact on student success. This session will discuss the impetus behind this initiative, the way it expands the current level of financial aid reporting in Maryland, comparisons with other states that have similar data systems, characteristics of the emerging Maryland model, and policy issues that will be examined as part of a multi-year research endeavor.