



### Data Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

July 14, 2025

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1. Welcome & Introductions

In Attendance: Mark Chisholm, Dina Advani, Brittany Shaughnessy, Kate McGowan, Dr. Vanessa Hawker, Jody Weber, Anita Gavin, William Brown, Christopher Baker-Airhart, Todd DeKay, Dawn Kenney, Larry Sanderson and Charla Orozco.

2. Previous Meetings Minutes Review

Dr. Vanessa Hawker- misspelling of institutions. Mark Chisholm -misspelling on Charla Orozco's name. Brittany Shaughnessy- my name is misspelled.

3. First Generation Flag Discussion

- i. Addition to eDEAR
- ii. FASFA components
- iii. Self-Identification

Dina Advani- shared screen this a recap of what we have been discussing as you know the financial aid data collection is getting revamped. We have been going back and forth with thoughts of changing the Family contribution data value on the Financial Aid file (N) to match the FASFA data value of Student Aid Index (SAI). This field will now accept the threshold of negative 1500. This will be in effect for the September 15, 2025, reporting cycle of the Financial aid data. Kate McGowan- reminder for Banner using institutions SAI is in the same column as EFC column. Dina Advani- The total parent income and student income are other topics we'd like to discuss. We are not fully confident we should be collecting and storing this data. What we are going to ask is that Institutions should report zeros in these data fields. If the institutions are unable to report this way, we as a department will have a script to zero out these fields and will no longer store this data. Dawn Kenney- via chat for banner schools Pell\_PGI is available for EFC. Mark Chisholm-funding formula need calculation is my understanding SAI value = to maximum total award for the year will be the cutoff to determine for at risk students. I think the cutoff is 7425. Dina Advani- we do have the cutoff number we will be sending this out to the IRs with other funding formula data at a later date. We plan to have the Financial Aid window in eDEAR open earlier for testing as soon as we can finalize these changes. Our goal is to have the window open by August 1, 2025. The deadline for files are September 15, 2025. The last thing we wanted to add was adding the Parent education status. We propose to add it to the financial aid file (N) based on the FASFA data. Four categories will be added 01- 04. Dawn Kenney- personally no issue adding it but if you are proposing taking away the first-generation flag in regular files it not going to cover half of our students. Mark Chisholm- we have not added the first-generation flag to our regular files, yet we've talked about. We do need to do that. There is some



ambiguity between the two. I've looked for a definite definition for first generation and is pretty much left to interpretation. We may need to change option 3 to completed bachelorette degree to be more specific. Although I do not know if any other institutions are collecting this level of detail on their applications. But the FASFA will have these 1-4 options. Dawn Kenney- we do collect this information on our applications but not as detailed. Mark Chisholm- so what is collected on your application? Dawn Kenney-It asks if either of your parents graduated from a two-year institution or 4 year institution. Mark Chisholm- I don't want to put more burden on the institutions to collect this data, but I think it would be extremely helpful to us all. Kate, I believe your institution collects this data. Kate McGowan- yes, we call it the legacy question it asks if either of your parents is a NMSU graduate or does your parent have a bachelor's degree from any institution or no bachelor's degree. This question is not verified as its total self-reported and has no influence on admission. FASFA info is also self-reported and not always verified. Charla Orozco- we collect info in a lot of different places in admission, FASFA, new student orientation and resource centers. We have recently started to compile data from all areas. If a student has answered yes to some college for parents, they are not considered first generation students. Compiling the data is still in progress and how to define status of student in terms of 1<sup>st</sup> gen. student. Kate McGowan- if the student does not have a FASFA file or award file we will not have this information on parent education, and this would be a justification to add it to the student file as well. Or is there going to be students who just don't answer this question on the FASFA. So, in these situations are the institutions just supposed to report their data with option 4 for I don't know? Mark Chisholm- that is a good question- We could do a survey to find out if and how many institutions are currently collecting this data and find the common thread. The other option is just to have an eDEAR option with just a first generation yes or no flag and let each institution determine this status on their own based on how they collect the data. It might be an invalid measure, but it would be simple. Kate McGowan- well it depends on what this data will be used for liking if for the funding formula it would need to be accurate. I will need to check with our admissions and financial aid office if this new format will be possible for this reporting cycle since I do not pull this data. Dina Advani- if institutions cannot do format or get data just put a blank then we could put 00 as an option to kind of follow what the FASFA application is collecting. It looks like the FASFA format does require applicants to fill in a bubble and won't accept blanks. We would like to know if institutions can make this change. We will ask this question on the survey that Brittany will get out. We will have this survey out in the next couple of days.

#### 4. Non-Resident Discussion

- a. Definition
- b. Coding

Mark Chisholm- I want to make sure everyone is still aware this data is still required. There are more and more institutions that are setting tuition rates for non-resident student rates to lower or equal to resident student tuition rates. It raises issues that I will probably be talking about later when we do funding formula discussions. It's just a reminder that very



few non-resident students are paying non-resident tuition, most have non-resident tuition waivers. But it is still very important that regardless of what mode the student is enrolling in residency status must still be collected and reported. The waiver does not make the student a resident, it just makes them eligible for resident tuition rates. If this needs further clarification we will send out a memo. Todd DeKay- last week there was a notification for grantee and subgrantees about servicing illegal aliens and things like that. Are people familiar with that? It is going to impact opportunity, dual credit and things like this. I think we are going to need to discuss this executive order. Dr. Vanessa Hawker- what this guidance is saying is that individuals who are undocumented they are not eligible to take dual credit. Mark Chisholm- how can they determine that. Can you send me a copy of this letter I will need to discuss this our Secretary. Kate McGowan- I received from my kids' school in Las Cruces we have been notified that they do not collect citizenship, and your kids are not at risk. But not sure with Higher education institutions. Todd Dekay- I have sent you the PDF it was sent to our grant office. Mark Chiholm- I will send out to everybody at this meeting.

## 5. Retention

### a. Reporting

Mark Chisholm- some of you are aware there was a lot of language in House Bill 2 that allocates money to universities kind as a bonus if their first-year retention number is higher than the previous year. Some of you have spent a lot of time with in in meeting back and forth as how we are going to calculate this number. We are planning to use DEAR date end of semester student enrollment data. I'm Calculating first-time full-time degree seeking cohort consistent with how IPEDS defines it. Essential pulling every student coded as a 3-enrollment status in the fall or if they are coded as a 1 or as a continuing student in the fall but in the previous summer at that same institution coded as 3 then I am still treating them as a first time in the fall. That statewide affects a few hundred additional coding, it varies by institution. This calculation is meant to address this issue. I am doing enrollment student level 11,12,13, 14, and 15. If a student is coded as 16, I am not counting them in this cohort. So, I am just counting first-time full-time freshman when we are doing the calculation for the 4-year school then I am taking this full-time first-time freshman and looking to see if they got a pell grant in that first fall yes/ no and are they male or female yes/no. So, I am defining those students into 4 categories and then we are looking at retention at that same school for the following fall for full time students. For institutions with branch campuses for NMSU if they are coded as first-time full-time freshman at the main campus, I am going to look at all branch campuses credit hour enrollment and use that to calculate full time status for that student. Thats how NMSU is operational doing it and Kate assures that a student coded as a first-time freshman at the branch campuses is not allowed to take a main campus course. Kate McGowan- yes, that is correct for NMSU. Mark Chisholm-For UNM I am still doing more work on that calculation. Eastern seems to be doing very little cross campus enrollment. Dawn, for CNM there didn't seem to be much cross enrollment with UNM so I don't think that will be an issue. Mark Saavedra- LFC shows that student age



rate 18-22 students have the worst retention rates. There is a report card out that our retention rates have not moved since 2018-2019. I think this is what is driving this House bill.

6. Preliminary 2023 Faculty Survey Findings

a. 2024 faculty survey response rate

Brittany Shaunessy- shared her screen for 2023 Faculty survey findings we will share these slides once we have finalized this data. Mark Chisholm- we will share these data slides before we finalize the data for review and critique. This includes faculty union. Kate McGown- I notice NMSU reported very different in part time faculty in 2024 than 2023. It seems maybe the question was addressed differently. Brittany - these are preliminary and once we share slides and you want to make any changes please reach out before we finalize it. Fall 2024 data will be out later this year. Fall 2023 data was initially incomplete and it has taken us this long to reach out to each institution to have the data completed.

7. Non-Credit Workforce Training Outcomes

Mark Chisholm-noncredit student severed by the grow money Brit does have a very simple overall template, but we don't have enough time in this session. At some point we need to start talking about this, maybe at our next meeting. We are being pushed by the LFC staff as well clearly having individual unit record data who's being served in this on credit instruction would be beneficial to the state there are several stat4es that are starting to collect this type of data. I don't think we have the staffing, money or energy at the department to start a whole new DEAR system to start tracking noncredit data. But we need to start thinking about this for the future.

a. Reporting and feasibility for end of FY26

8. Next meeting

a. Currently scheduled for August 18th, 2025

b. Meeting dates for the rest of 2025:

- i. September 8
- ii. October 20
- iii. November 10
- iv. December 8

c. Are there any topics that should be added to upcoming agendas?

Non-Credit workforce training outcomes.