



Institutional Research: Transforming Information into Knowledge

FNB Auditorium, Tshwane University of Technology (Pretoria Campus)
4-5 June 2008

PROGRAMME

4 June 2008

08:15 – 09:15 Registration

09:15 – 09:30 Opening and welcome

THEME 1: WHAT IS INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH?

[Theme 1 aims to describe and discuss the field of Institutional Research (IR). IR is first investigated in terms of its roles and activities, and how it contributes to institutional effectiveness. This is followed by a discussion of how IR is structured in various institutions, together with the advantages and disadvantages of the different approaches. Subsequently, IR practitioners are discussed: Who are they, what are their backgrounds, and how do persons become Institutional Researchers? Finally, success factors for IR are dealt with, and how an effective and efficient IR function is created and managed.]

09:30 - 10:20 What is Institutional Research? (Prof George Subotzky, Executive Director: Information and Strategic Analysis, University of South Africa)

10:20 – 11:10 Where does Institutional Research fit in? (Mrs Jane Hendry, Chief Information Officer and Mr Ashraf Conrad, Senior Planning Officer, University of Cape Town)

11:10 – 11:25 Refreshments

11:25 - 12:15 Who does Institutional Research? (Ms Marsha Cawood, ITS & MIS Manager, Polytechnic of Namibia)

- 12:15 – 13:05 Success factors for Institutional Research (Mr Robert Woodward, Director: Institutional Research and Planning, Cape Peninsula University of Technology)
- 13:05 – 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 - 14:45 Group activity
[Discussion of the following topics: 1. Ways in which Institutional Research could improve the effectiveness of your institution. 2. Ways in which the effectiveness of Institutional Research could be improved in your institution.]
- 14:45 – 15:30 Feedback and discussion
- 15:30 – 15:45 Refreshments

THEME 2: TRANSFORMING INFORMATION INTO KNOWLEDGE

[The purpose of this theme is to describe the role that IR plays in various institutional areas, and to provide examples of ways in which it supports the different institutional processes and functions (both in the presenter's institution and in others), and how it benefits the effectiveness and efficiency of institutions.]

- 15:45 – 16:35 Institutional Research to support planning (Prof Heather Nel, Director: Strategic and Institutional Planning, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University)
- 16:35 – 17:25 Institutional Research to support quality assurance (Dr Ina Louw, Senior Lecturer: Mathematics and Statistics, Tshwane University of Technology)
- 17:25 – 18:00 Dinner

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THEME 2: TRANSFORMING INFORMATION INTO KNOWLEDGE (CONT.)

- 08:00 – 08:50 Institutional Research to enhance the student's academic experience (Prof Rod Bally, Acting DVC and University Planner, University of Fort Hare)
- 08:50 – 09:40 Institutional Research to enhance student progress (Ms Marthie Cronje, Institutional Researcher, University of Johannesburg)
- 09:40 – 09:55 Refreshments

- 09:55 - 10:45 Institutional Research to support resource allocation in the context of academic planning (Prof Pieter Vermeulen, Director: Institutional Research, University of Pretoria)
- 10:45 - 11:35 Creating synergies between institutional planning, academic planning, the MIS, and institutional research (Mr Glen Barnes, Director: Division of Management Information, University of KwaZulu-Natal)
- 11:35 – 12:15 Discussion
- 12:15 – 12:30 Closure
- 12:30 – 13:15 Lunch

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