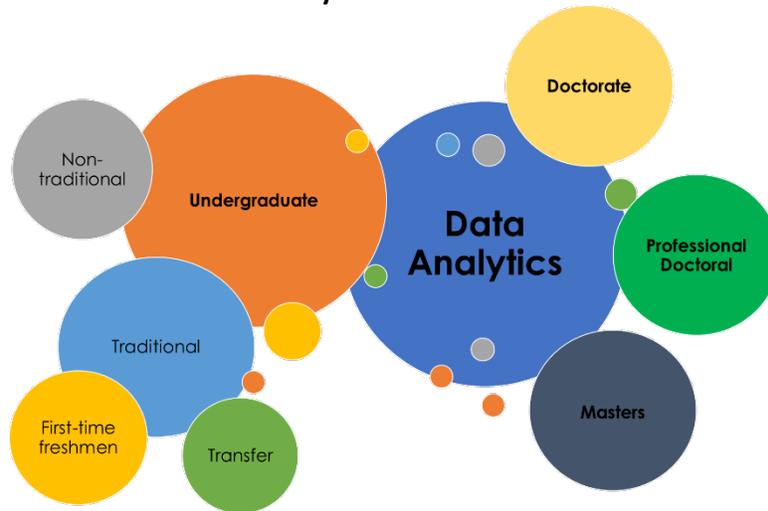# President and Provost Roundtable
The Broadening Student Types in Higher Education: Implications for Success

Question: **As student types/demographics broaden, how do we measure/define student success? How can we use data more effectively to enhance decisions and success?**

First-Generation Student Success
- Expand first-year success programs beyond the first year
- Block scheduling
- Student success coaches
- Undergraduate research connections
- Family seminars[9]

The Murky Middle
- The majority of student attrition occurs in the second year or later. The first year is the biggest single year for loss, but nearly three-fifths of all departures occur in the subsequent years. Most student success efforts focus on first-year student support
- 84% of first-year students with GPAs between 2.0 and 3.0 return for their second year, but just over half actually graduate
- Recent academic performance seems to matter much more than demographics or pre-enrollment data regarding likelihood of dropping out
    - Cumulative GPA
    - Terms completed
    - GPA trends
    - F in prior term
    - F in prior two terms[4]
- Importance of successfully completing math requirements

Non-traditional Student Needs
- Early intervention for those needing remediation, college skills courses
- Flexibility - evening, weekend, online courses
- Differentiated instruction – care more about practical use of course material; bring more life experience and self-awareness to the classroom; role playing, discussions, observations and hands-on applications are more effective than traditional lecture courses
- Strong connections with instructors – personal connections make them more motivated, accountable and invested in the school
- Credits for past experiences[7]

A New Model for Higher Education
- Employers feel college graduate employees don't have sufficient critical-thinking, communication and decision making skills – more likely to hire applicants with internships or apprenticeships[3]

- We need to help students understand and communicate how their training has developed these critical skills
- Today's student is older, has some college credits, works full-time and is raising a family
  - Respond to students needs with innovative products and services
  - Make higher education affordable
  - Build stronger bridges to the workplace
  - Transparently collect and report data that measures real-world outcomes (e.g. alumni salary measurements)[8]

Data Analytics
- Prescriptive (Recommend Actions)
- Predictive (Suggestive Options)
- Descriptive (Rear-View Facing Reports)
- Uses
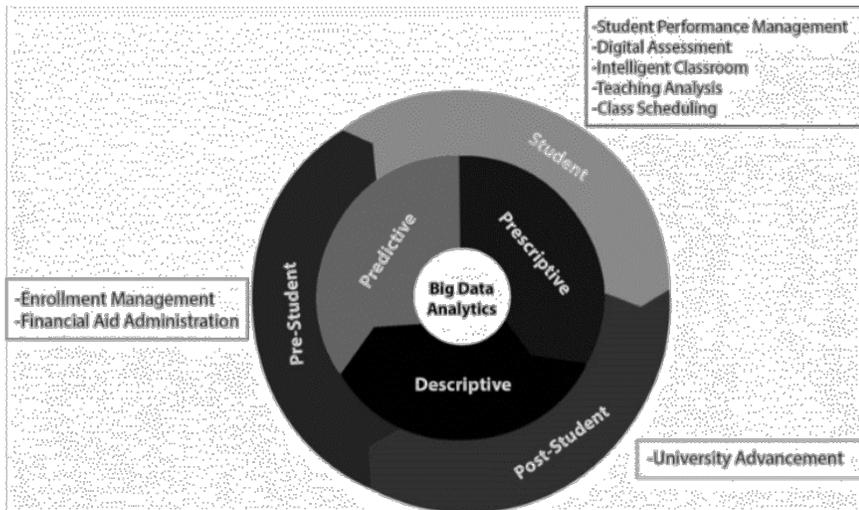
- Challenges
  - Resistance to change
  - Lack of vision
  - Lack of financial resources
  - Shortage of analysts
  - Insufficient computing power
  - Avoidance of evaluating our efforts and assumptions[2]

Resources

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