

# Building Consensus for Better Data Infrastructure

How to Navigate and Drive Change on Your Campus



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We help schools support students from enrollment to graduation and beyond

**ROOTED IN RESEARCH** 

8,000<sup>+</sup> Peer-tested best practices

**Enrollment innovations** 500<sup>+</sup> tested annually

**ADVANTAGE OF SCALE** 

2,100+ Institutions served

9.5 M<sup>+</sup> Students supported by our SSMS

**WE DELIVER RESULTS** 

Of our partners continue 95% with us year after year, reflecting the goals we achieve together



## Quick Poll







#### Steady & Consistent

- ✓ Appreciates routine and the structure that it provides
- Prefers focusing on improving existing systems and processes
- ✓ Less comfortable with the unfamiliar and/or unknown

#### **Risk Neutral**

- ✓ Open to whatever direction is best for the organization
- ✓ Mostly cares about making changes in a smart way
- ✓ Rarely proposes changes, but happily contributes

#### **Change Adventurer**

- ✓ Constantly looking for new ways to improve work
- ✓ Willing to try anything that could help achieve goals
- ✓ Bored by routine

Higher Comfort Level



Lower

Level

Comfort

Which of these best describes your comfort level with change?

Growing Urgency for Leaders to Make More, Bigger Changes Simultaneously

### Select Market Pressures That Higher Ed Institutions Are Facing



## Sample Large-Scale Change Initiatives Leaders Are Tackling



Projected decline in US college-age population starting in 2025



Academic reorganization and program revitalization



Shifting student preferences around virtual learning and services



Remote and/or hybrid instruction and administrative services



Rising administrative costs and growing concerns about affordability



Shared services implementation



Stakeholder demands for addressing racial inequities and injustice



DEIJ<sup>1</sup> plan development and enactment

## A Black Swan Event

COVID-19 Enabled Rapid Change, But Stakeholders Seek Return to Normal

#### Representative Changes Institutions Made in Response to the Pandemic



Remote instruction and online learning infrastructure



Remote work expectations and operations



Virtual advising, support services, and programming



Academic and administrative cost containment

decade to move to near universal virtual instruction. Instead, we did it in a **matter of months**."

it probably would have taken a

The pandemic has forced us to make changes **faster than we ever imagined** we could. Prior to COVID,

President, Large Private Research University

#### **Factors That Will Complicate Change Efforts Post-COVID**

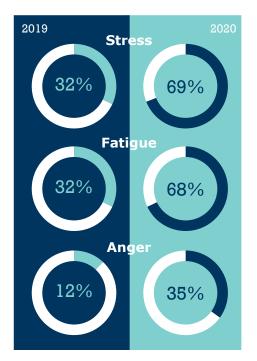


COVID-related changes and lessons learned get crowded out amid competing priorities



Change fatigue prompts intensified stakeholder resistance to future initiatives

Faculty Reporting High Levels of Emotional Drain...



.... With Tech Adoption Cited as a Key Contributing Factor



The pandemic has exposed the ways in which educators have access to powerful technology for teaching, but often inadequate scaffolding, user education and support to maximize its use."

TARA GRAHAM

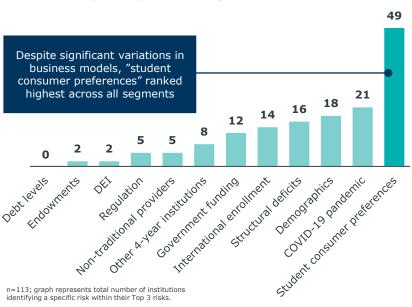
VP of Educator Community, Course Hero

## \_! ! -

## Student Experience and Financial Sustainability Driving Digital Strategy

## "Consumer" Behaviors Pose Greatest Perceived Risk to Today's Higher Ed Strategy

EAB's Business Transformation Survey Asked Business and Finance Leaders to Identify the Top 3 Risks Facing Their Institution<sup>1</sup>



Leaders Ready to Bet on Tech

85%

Of surveyed business leaders intend to make major changes to their IT strategy

89%

Of surveyed business leaders **foresee greater automation** of campus services and administrative processes

Low Success Rates for Change Initiatives Across Industries



Deploying Change Management



Improved Outcomes for Change Initiatives Across Industries

50%

of change initiatives are clear failures

16%

of change initiatives yield **mixed results** 

59%

of organizational changes fail due to **insufficient communications** 

#### · Definition:

A set of practices and processes for garnering buy-in and moving stakeholder groups toward a collective goal and/or changed behavior

#### · Key Concepts:

- Focuses on the human and cultural aspects of organizational change
- Entails building awareness and understanding among people affected by change

93%

of projects effectively applying change management **met or exceeded project objectives** 

**78**%

of projects effectively applying change management were **at or under budget** 

69%

of projects effectively applying change management were **on or ahead of schedule** 

## Quick Poll

## Which of these best describes your **campus change management function**?



We currently have **no plans** to develop this capability



We are planning to develop this capability



This capability is **present in some areas** of the institution



This capability is playing an integrated role across the institution

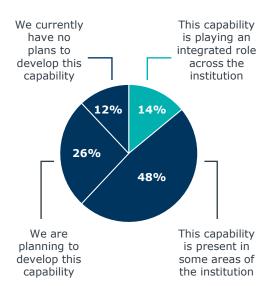
## Imperfect Application in Higher Ed

## Leaders Must Look for Partners in Effective Change Management

## Many Institutions Lack Sufficient Change Management Capability

Percent of institutions with change management capability integrated in planning and strategy

n=495 (presidents, provosts, cabinet members)



#### Common Change Management Mistakes Higher Ed Leaders Make



View change management as a one-time event



Take too narrow of an approach (e.g., focus exclusively on communications or incentives)



Fail to anticipate and assess the real-world impact of changes, especially on key stakeholders

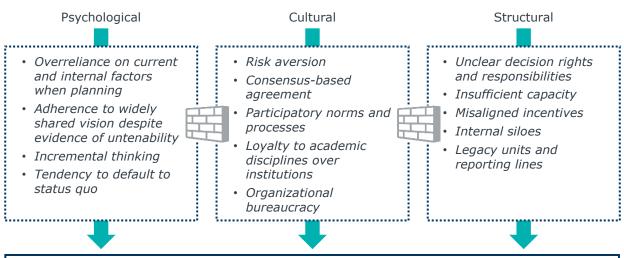


Delegate responsibilities to deputies instead of playing an active role in ongoing efforts

#### .

## Campus Leaders Face Strong Aversion, Stakeholder Resistance

#### **Types of Barriers to Change**



#### **Outcomes**

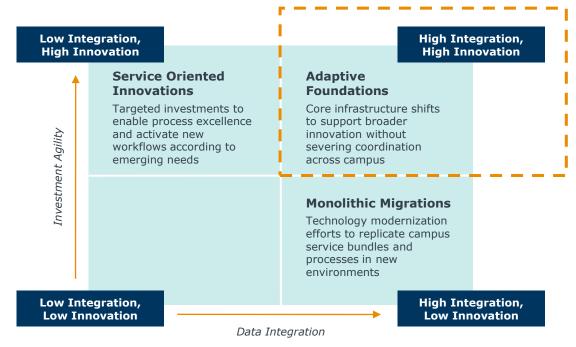
Deters leaders from initiating change initiatives entirely

Stops change initiatives early in their tracks

Leads to long-term stall outs and change fatigue

Ongoing Investments Fall Into Three Main Categories

#### **Technology Investment Strategies for Digital Agility**



## Why Invest in Adaptive Data Foundations?

Top Reasons Driving Meaningful Partnerships Around Data

#### The Not So Power Formula



Reason for Partnering with Academic Performance Solutions	Average Ranking	Total of #1 Rankings
Creating a new data-informed culture	2.69	22
Widespread use of single data source to support academic activities	3.87	11
Improved data quality	4.11	5
Administrative resource efficiency	4.18	5
Improvement in student progress	4.22	10
Institutional process alignment	5.13	2
Dollars saved	5.31	0
Time saved	6.49	0

## Quick Poll



Which of these options is the biggest barrier to building adaptive data foundations on your campus?

- Low Data Literacy
- Insufficient Buy In to Invest
- Poor Data Accessibility
- Poor Data Quality
- No Time to Support Initiatives
- No Urgency to Use Data

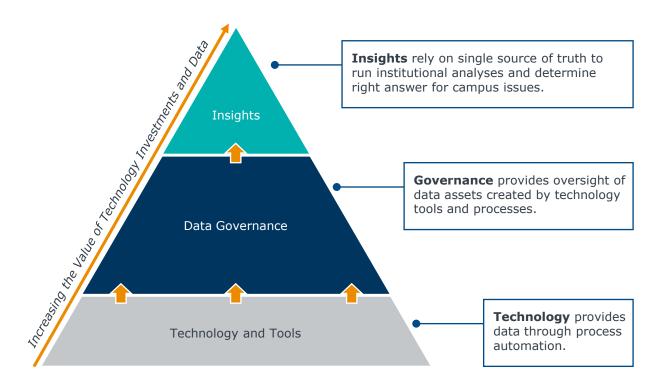
## **Understanding Organizational Barriers**

"Please rank your institution's most common barriers for making datainformed decisions."

Ranked Order of the Challenges You Hear From Teams		Number of #1 Rankings
Data Literacy	"I don't know where to start"	15
2 Insufficient Buy-In	"Our department is operating just fine"	9
3 Data Access	"I haven't had the data I need"	10
4 Data Quality	"The data isn't right; this doesn't represent us"	11
5 No Time	"I don't have time to do this"	5
6 No Urgency	"This is not a priority right now"	5

## Foundational Work Needed on Enterprise Data

Getting Value From Data Requires Campus-Wide Investment



## Data Strategy Alignment Overview



## **Survey: Data Management Maturity**

EAB-administered survey of institutional data leaders and consumers, assessing campus-wide perceptions of current data governance and data management efforts.



## **Leadership Engagement Interviews**

EAB-led interviews with campus leaders and power-users, discussing current data frustrations and aspirations for campus-wide data use.



#### **Results and Recommendations**

Survey analysis and results presentation, highlighting areas of high and low data strategy maturity, alignment regarding current maturity levels, and EAB recommendations.



#### **Project and Services Prioritization**

Results synthesized to provide a custom list of opportunities for prioritization and subsequent implementation through professional services engagements.

## 20 Survey Questions Across 10 Domains

#### **Organizational Culture**



Strategic Vision



Data Culture



**Governance Structures** 



Organizational Continuity



Collaboration Frameworks

## **Implementation Practices**



Implementation Strategy



Common Data Dictionary



Data Quality Assurance



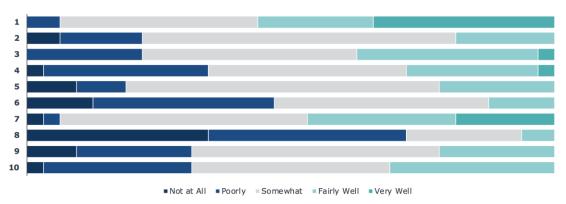
Data Access Management



Data Consumption Data Maturity Survey Results

## Woodley University | Culture Alignment

Where Do Respondents Agree and Disagree on Organizational Culture Effectiveness?



- Surface areas of strong agreement to build campus consensus
- 2 Identify cross-campus misalignment to support troubleshooting
- 3 Explore differences of opinion across the campus hierarchy/roles

## Data Projects Surfaced in Interviews

## Student Engagement Dashboard



Several key stakeholders expressed a desire for tracking student activity data that has historically been hard to capture and consolidate across various systems on campus.

With the relevant source data aggregated, we can create a student engagement dashboard and help flag students of concern.

## CRM Implementation Review



With a new CRM, the admissions team was struggling to implement and utilize the full functionality of their new system, preventing the institution from capturing valuable enrollment data.

By leveraging higher ed data experts, we can train and onboard staff to ensure you ROI from technology systems on campus.

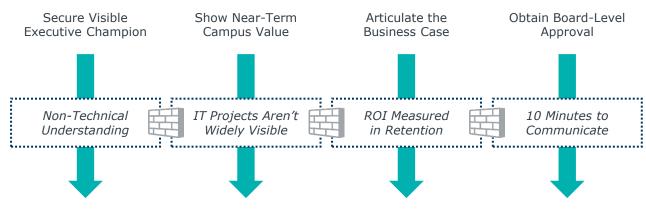
## Pre-Registration Process



Campus leaders described the labor-intensive process to pull all the information that informs course schedules for incoming students, involving multiple staff members and sources across campus.

Centralized reporting support can significantly speed up this process and free up staff to focus more time and attention on strategic work.

## Clearing the Path to Common Data Infrastructure



## Communicate the Vision at the Strategic Level

- Align future state to campus strategic objectives
- Share peer school experiences to reinforce the need

#### Prioritize Campus Partner Project as Initial Scope

- Find ongoing projects to support with data investment
- Co-sponsor stakeholder initiatives to provide support and build momentum

## Enfranchise New Stakeholders to Define the Value

- Seek analyst and IR input to determine opportunity cost of no investment
- Define out-year projects to provide longer-term ROI roadmap

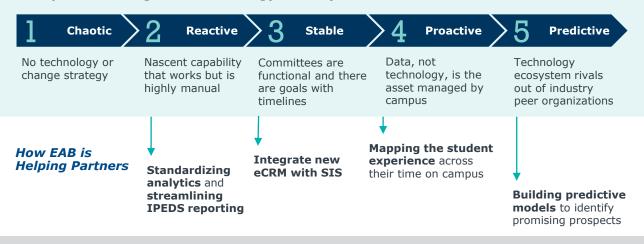
#### Simplify Messaging to Focus on Project Outputs and Value

- Send details ahead to show due diligence and articulate facts
- Limit presentation time to higher-level narrative and questions

## Meeting You Where You Are

Progress is Possible No Matter Your Maturity

#### The Spectrum of Higher Ed Technology Maturity





Self-Sustaining Success Initiatives



Sustainable Data Environments



Improved Decision-Making Processes

## I'd like to speak to an EAB Expert about...



How to convince my campus to make investments in data and analytics



How to identify the right projects to advance our data maturity on campus

## **EAB Insights Straight to Your Inbox**

Receive our new whitepaper on Data Priorities for Student Success.



2 Subscribe to EAB's new Data & Analytics Blog.



3 See how EAB is Supporting IT Modernization through Edify at OregonTech.



## Key Takeaways From Today's Session



Change fatigue is real—and must be proactively managed to guide your institution forward



Technology-supported innovation must directly address people and process change before, during, and after implementation



Individual leaders have the most profound impact on their organization's change capacity by building relationships and collaborative projects

# Ask Me Anything... Or Reach Out Directly!



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Don't forget to **fill in our survey** as you exit out of today's session.

