

Section Header	Description
Institution Name	Heartland Community College
Institution Characteristics	Community College, around 5000 Credit Students, 12,400 non-credit students
CARLI Counts Participant Name + Job Title	Erin Zimmerman LTA - Technical Services
Project Name/Title	Impact of Library Resources on Student Course Success
Single Sentence Abstract	Heartland Community College Technical Services staff used previously collected data to examine the use of the computer lab and item circulation in the success of students in selected on-campus courses.
Motivation(s) for Project	The project was intended to determine the usefulness of data we were collecting daily and whether or not it could be combined with student grades for selected classes to measure the impact of library resource usage on a student's success in that course.
Partners and Stakeholders	Library Director - Interested in receiving useable data Institutional Effectiveness - Providing student information Faculty - Sharing information on the class, students and final grades IT Department - Assisting in data collection
Inquiry Question	What is the impact of on campus library resources on student success in a specific course(s)?
Study Participants/Population	Users of the computer lab, students who borrowed our library materials, students of a specified course(s)
Method(s) of Data Collection and Analysis	Computer lab usage was collected in the form of logins and logouts. It needed to be deduplicated by month, semester, and year. It has been collected for the last 8 years. Data needed to be converted from logins to student IDs after collection. Circulation information for HCC students borrowing HCC items was collected using a custom query of the CARLI database using Access. This information has been collected over the last 5 years.

	<p>Due to COVID-19, the faculty approached to participate felt it was not a good time for them, so there is no information regarding student success to compare with usage. If we decide to continue collecting this same date, it may be possible to secure participation in the future.</p>
Findings	<p>One of the takeaways was that all efforts should be made to collect data with the same anonymized student indicators. It would save a lot of effort during analysis and you would be prepared to ask stakeholders and partners for precisely what you need from them. Second, I think if you are going to collect data you need to have a reason to do so. The data for this project had been collected with no specific use in mind. This project was the first time it had been analyzed.</p>
Use of Findings	<p>As our project was incomplete with regards to student success, I believe the findings are also incomplete.</p> <p>There are the usability of data findings that are part of our larger plan for data collection following the switch from Voyager to Alma and the recent cyberattack at HCC. The methods we used to capture data are no longer an option so, we are at a point where we need to decide to keep collecting lab usage and student borrowing, we will have to find new ways.</p>
Next Steps and Other Results	<p>Moving forward, I will work with my co-workers to develop a new plan for data collection with a plan to use it. If possible part of that plan will be to attempt this project with some more comprehensive data on usage of library services with the cooperation of the Faculty.</p>
Additional Reflections	<p>I feel that someone would need an understanding of query building in Alma/Voyager and clear precise communication with the IT department. It was a challenge to get on the same page with the needs of the library.</p> <p>I also feel that the data collected doesn't tell the full picture of what is going on in the</p>

	library. It focuses solely on the use of physical items and not services.
Timeline	<p><u>January meeting:</u> Showed up with a project I was going to do with one of the Instruction Librarians at HCC and a member of the Faculty to investigate Library Instruction and student success based on semester grades</p> <p><u>Early March</u> - The Instruction Librarian leaves for a new job along with another Instruction Librarian. The last remaining Librarian and I decide she has too much on her plate to participate. I needed a whole new project at this point.</p> <p><u>Soon after the July meetings:</u> I began to really look at the data we had already been collecting and convert the Computer Lab Data Logins to ID numbers. I also contacted some Faculty members previously interested in the original project but everyone was focused on moving to online classes and not interested.</p> <p><u>Early September-</u>Experimented with data looking for overlaps in usage which was the only thing I could do at this point. There was very little overlap to report.</p> <p><u>Mid-October:</u> Cyber Attack causes me to lose access to my data with the possibility of never getting it back</p> <p><u>Mid-December:</u> Access to my data has been restored</p>

Note: Submit report as a single PDF to Michelle Haake (mjhuls@uillinois.edu).