Data Governance Newsletter

COMMUNICATING OUR WINS AND NEXT STEPS

BI COMMUNITY DATA GOVERNANCE MEETING (DEC. 5TH)

This month the BI community met to discuss the ongoing data governance (DG) improvements that are currently happening on campus as well as new undertakings that Tom Howa and Susan Schaefer will be focusing on with the creation of the new data governance analyst position.

This newsletter will be sent out monthly to keep the BI community informed on progress, and highlight industry standards that show good business practices.

CURRENT PROJECTS/FOCUS

Maturity Assessment

The idea behind the assessment is to utilize a questionnaire and in person interviews to create a baseline. This will help us prioritize DG projects and have a matrix to measure progress.
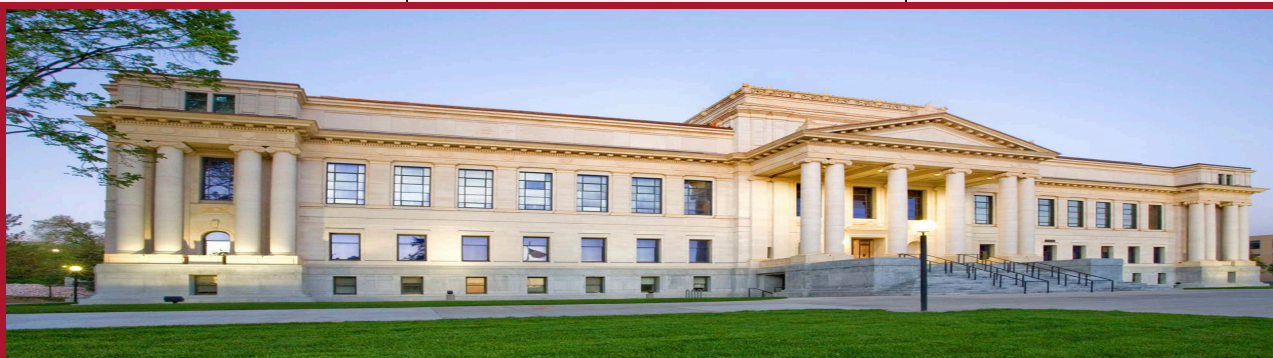
Let's focus on areas that matter and really make DG a positive resource.

Systems Cataloging

Is a system integrated with PeopleSoft or the data warehouse? Are there still data elements not integrated? Do changes made in a system affect data or other applications (i.e. Civitas) downstream? The goal of the system catalog is to answer questions such as these in a central location.

Stakeholder Identification

Who makes decisions about student, HR, finance, and other areas' data policies? Who are the major data consumers? Getting a better understanding of who should receive communications on data changes or who can answer data concerns helps build the tools for better collaboration.
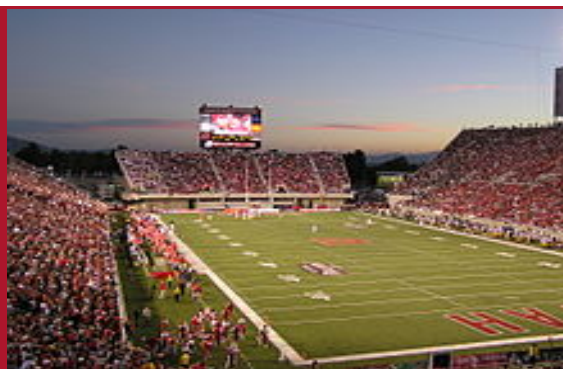

Data Governance Contacts

Thomas Howa, Associate Director for Business Intelligence – tom.howa@utah.edu
Susan Schaefer, Data Governance Analyst – susan.schaefer@utah.edu
Pooja Raychaudhuri, Graduate Intern

We are working on creating a viable DG program that will help individuals achieve their data goals.

Data Governance Mission Statement*

Utilize data management standards, data models, collaboration, and transparency to help departments expand their data usage and analysis.

*version 0.3 – Any feedback or suggestions are welcomed

Student Data Warehouse Expanding

PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS LOOKING TO JOIN SDW

Tim Ebner reviewed some of the successes rising from the Student Data Warehouse (SDW). One achievement was the more individuals in the colleges and departments are utilizing SDW data. Another recent success was the recent interest expressed by the professional schools to utilize the SDW.

The professional schools desire to integrate with current SDW processes is a great reminder that we are working towards "One University" and data governance should follow in that same spirit.

DG Timeline:

December: DG Team work on creating maturity assessment

January - March: Reaching out to different departments to take maturity assessment

April: BI Community Data Governance Meeting to look at high level results and review current priorities

University Policies Feature

LOOKING AT WHAT IS IN PLACE AND OPENING THE DOOR TO DISCUSSIONS ON UPDATES

It was pointed out in the BI Community Data Governance meeting that we have some policies in place that give us a good foundation towards data usage and management, but procedures that implement or follow these policies aren't always clear. One part of the long-term data governance process will be to document the missing procedures implied in current policies or highlight areas in which policies might need to be updated or clarified. With that in mind, this feature will highlight different University policies in the hopes of fostering an increased dialogue on ways to improve or clarify policies.

Below are some of the policies referenced in the BI Community DG Meeting.

University Policy 4-001: University Institutional Data Management Policy
Describes data governance roles and responsibilities as well as describing institutional data and its usage.

Rule 4-004C Data Classification & Encryption Rev. 1
Identifies different areas of data and how it should be classified for use or protection.