Benchmarking

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Briefing for the CAUL Meeting
26 March 2010
Complexity Index

Allows meaningful comparisons to be made between Universities of different sizes and shapes.

The complexity index is based on

1. Number of students (EFTSL)
2. Number of staff (FTE)
3. Research income ($)
4. Number and size of different “sites”
35% + 25% + 35% + 5% (based on an algorithm which incorporates the number and size of sites) = complexity index
Calculation

1. Obtain the raw measurement (eg. student EFTSL)

2. Scale the raw measurement using a linear algorithm between 1 and 10 based on the max and min values for student EFTSL across the sector

3. Applying a weighting to the scaled measurement based on the relative importance of underlying measure (eg. 35% for students)

4. Repeat the calculation process for staff, research and sites.

5. Add up the 4 weighted measurements to get the final index.
An Example (UniSA)

1. Student EFT=23,301

2. Using max = 43,351 (RMIT) and min = 2,615 (Lincoln)
   UniSA’s scaled student measurement is 4.03.  RMIT = 10
   and Lincoln =1.

3. Weighted student measurement is 35% of 5.61 = 1.51.

4. Adding this to the weighted measurements for research
   (0.58), staff (1.95) and sites (0.25) gives a total of 4.19
Changes in the Complexity Index

2005 – Initial calculation
2006 – Added in TAFE students for dual sector institutions
2007 – Updated geography calculation

Possible future modifications
Include location (eg. regional, international) as part of the geography algorithm.
Consider discipline mix.
Consider cohort mix (domestic v international v HDR).
% Difference between
Actual and Predicted IT Expenditure

1. Under counting (data quality)
2. Effect of others over counting
3. Deliberate strategy
4. Less complex than expected
5. More efficient

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## Summary of University ICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure (actual and predicted)</td>
<td>$1.3bn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Revenue (actual)</td>
<td>4.0 - 10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Revenue (predicted)</td>
<td>5.0 - 9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average cost of an IT FTE</td>
<td>$71,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree of centralisation (staff)</td>
<td>22-100%</td>
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</tbody>
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Demonstration