

Innovative Analysis

for a modern university ...



With 26,000 students and 2,000 staff, the University of Greenwich is a major UK university.

As a higher education institution with a wide portfolio of programmes, a network of eleven Partner Colleges and nearly 2,000 students studying overseas, Greenwich provides high-quality education, research and enterprise for international, national, regional and local communities. Its achievements have also been recognised in the award of two research-based Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher & Further Education, given for outstanding achievement.



There were bottlenecks; reports were limited and it was impossible to conduct comparative analyses with any degree of speed, sophistication or flexibility! We needed to change the whole process. It all came down to making sure we had the tools in place to easily understand key data, and respond to that information very quickly."

Christine Couper

Head of Planning and Statistics,
University of Greenwich

The challenge...

To support its continued success in UK higher education, the University of Greenwich Planning and Statistics (PAS) Division has a key role to play. PAS is responsible for producing the reports and analyses upon which senior staff make decisions and guide the future direction of the University. This is a large remit and involves responding to hundreds of ad-hoc information requests, submitting statistical returns, producing a large number of reports and compiling detailed comparative analyses.

Yet with a team of just 6, reliant upon basic database systems, spreadsheet reporting and complicated pivot tables, collecting and analysing information was a time-consuming and inefficient process. Only a limited amount of data could be accessed by very few people, trends could not be easily identified, there were no means of investigating underlying details and users could not access their own data.



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Bob Dolden

Director of Learning and Quality, School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

The solution...

After a thorough selection process The University of Greenwich implemented a web based reporting and visual analysis solution from CACI.

The University can now access up to 12 years of HESA data, stored in a single Oracle data warehouse, from which management reports and comparative analyses can be easily and quickly produced using BusinessObjects WebIntelligence. On top of this sits ADVIZOR visual analysis, a tool that provides an additional level of intuitive and visual analysis of information to help users more clearly indicate key trends and 'data hot spots'.

Adopted as the corporate standard, a total of 50 business users and key decision-makers can now access information directly through the ADVIZOR interface. In addition to PAS, users include Heads of Schools, Directors of Learning & Quality, School Quality Officers, Student Affairs, Recruitment & Admissions and Marketing & Development.

The results and benefits...

By providing a centrally accessible system for all users, it is now possible for each department to control their own data and run reports when they need them, rather than relying upon PAS. As a result, this also means that PAS can focus on running more complex statistical analyses for the VC and University's Senior Team.

By combining the power of ADVIZOR visual analysis with BusinessObjects reporting, information and key trends can be visualised immediately with the option to drill down into the underlying detail. A geographical analysis of the student population, for example, can now be plotted visually for speed of reference and clarity, whilst still providing links to relevant reports and other information.

The benefits for the individual departments are well noted, as one user commented:

"This system is an enormous leap forward in terms of meeting requirements for data analysis. It allows the end user to focus easily and quickly on selected data, drilling down where necessary and examining trends across sessions in a manner not available through the traditional statistical digest."

Bob Dolden

Director of Learning and Quality,
School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

Commenting on the relationship with CACI, Christine Couper, said,



CACI was a great help throughout the project – they provided an excellent level of support when we needed it, delivered all of our training requirements to get users up and running quickly and have allowed us to make a major move forward with our MIS strategy and development."

Christine Couper

Head of Planning and Statistics,
University of Greenwich

For more information, telephone the Business Intelligence Systems Division on 0161 848 8074 or email info@caci.co.uk