

Outside the

Notes from Institutional Effectiveness

Our Perspective

The vision of the Department of Institutional Effectiveness is to continuously build and support a culture of evidence through the provision of institutional research studies, effectiveness enhancing methodologies and innovative strategic planning approaches to increase institutional and student performance.

Derailing Loan Default

A research study was conducted to identify common student characteristics associated with student loan default. An analysis was conducted on categorical data of students that accepted loans from 2007 to recent years. The categories used for the study included:

- Age Group
- Categorical Program Participation (CalWORKS, EOPS, CARE, DSPS)
- Level of Education (HS grad, GED, No HS diploma)
- Educational Goal (Degree, Certificate, Transfer, Other)
- Units Attempted/ Completed
- GPA
- Completion (Degree, Certificate, Transfer)
- Residency Status

The object of the analysis was to determine what grouping of these variables would best predict students falling into loan default. The total dichotomous (1, 0) independent variable groups for the analysis was 33.

The findings of the study showed that students that attempted and completed less than 30 units, had an educational goal of obtaining a certificate and earned a cumulative G.P.A between 1.01 and 2.0, and did not obtain the certificate were predicted at a 77% accuracy rate to fall into loan default.

This information has been presented to Lassen College's loan default management team as a means to developing interventions, awareness and new training materials to decrease the loan default rate of the campus and to continue to progress forward in goal financial aid standing.

