

Better Data to Prepare Better Teachers

SREB Teacher Preparation Commission

December 2016

Deans for Impact shares a common vision to improve teacher preparation



Deans for Impact's Guiding Principles



Our members and fellows represent a diverse set of institutions across the country





Collecting better data is central goal of Deans for Impact (& astute researchers)

 "We need to use data –from common metrics and assessments –to examine relative strengths and weaknesses within our programs."



 "We really do want to assess the quality of our graduates' work. We've been seeking this information for a long time, but it's hard to get."



 "To do more, HBCUs and other Minority-Serving Institutions need to see data as an ally, not an obstacle."

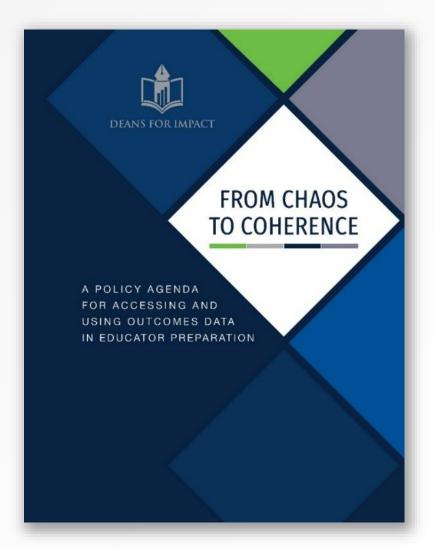
Cassandra Herring
DFI (formerly Hampton University)

 "The most promising ingredient for improved teacher preparation is the systematic development of relevant data."

Julie Cohen & Jim Wycoff



Our policy agenda underscores the need for common data across programs



- There is limited *uniformity* in the type of evidence we collect to let us know how teacher candidates are doing.
- There is little *comparability* of data across our programs because we use different instruments and tools.
- We struggle to *access* to data on the effectiveness of the educators we prepare, or their impact on their students.

Full brief available at http://deansforimpact.org/pdfs/From_Chaos_to_Coherence.pdf

Programs struggle to access data on teachers they have prepared

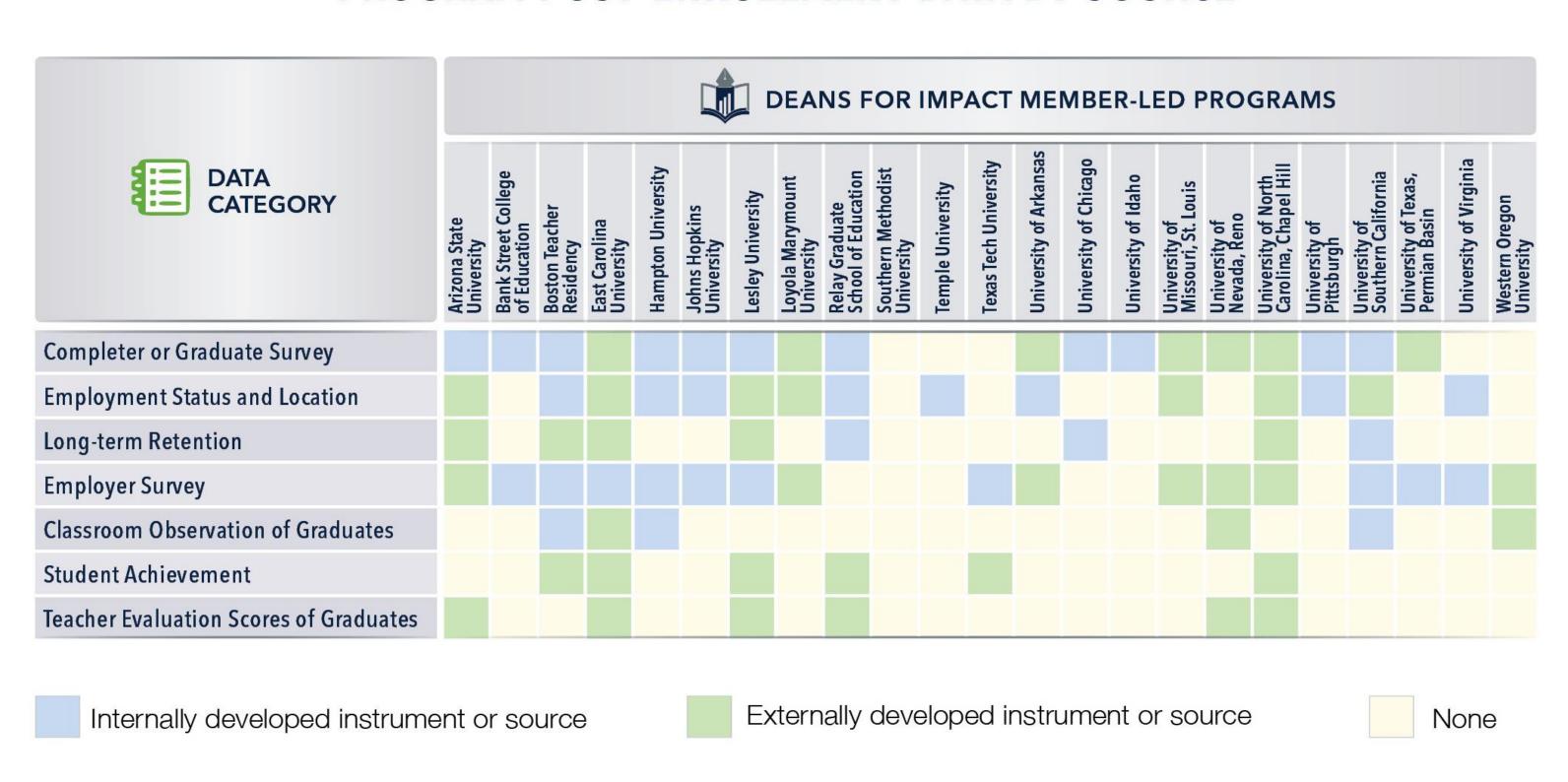
PROGRAM ACCESS TO POST-ENROLLMENT DATA

DATA CATEGORY	% COLLECTING DATA CATEGORY
Completer or Graduate Survey	78%
Employer Survey	74%
Employment Status and Location	65%
Long-term Retention	35%
Classroom Observation of Graduates	26%
Student Achievement	26%
Teacher Evaluation Scores of Graduates	26%



And without comparable outcomes data, there is no possibility of systemic improvement

PROGRAM POST-ENROLLMENT DATA BY SOURCE





We need a systematic approach to address the problem of comparable, accessible data



Mentor / Supervising Teacher Survey	1		I	1	1	1	I			1	1	1	1
Student Achievement at Clinical Experience Site			Е						Е			Е	
Candidate Exit Survey	Е	1	1	1	1	1	Е	1	1	1	I	1	1
Performance Assessment	Е		1	Ε	1	Е	E	Ε	1			Е	



FUTURE?

Mentor / Supervising Teacher Survey	Ε	Е	Ε	Ε	Ε	E	Ε	Е	E	Ε	Ε	Ε	Ε
Student Achievement at Clinical Experience Site	Е		Е		Е	Е		Е	Е	Е	Е	Е	Ε
Candidate Exit Survey	Е	Е	E	Е	Е	Е	Е	E	Е	Е	Е	Е	Ε
Performance Assessment	Е	Е	E	E	E	Е	E	Е	Е	Е	Е	E	E

I = Data collected by instrument developed at an individual program

E = Data collected by externally validated instrument



Deans for Impact is working to develop common indicators across our membership

This work is still very much in development, but we are honing in on four categories of data of particular importance.

- A model MOU for accessing K-12 student achievement data of program graduates from state and district partners
- An observational measure of candidate instructional skill collected at multiple points during a clinical experience
- An assessment of professional dispositions and mindsets collected at some point(s) over an individual's path from applicant to candidate
- An employer or graduate survey collected at some point(s) after teacher preparation is complete and the teacher is employed



State policy can play key role for each of these data categories

State role

Model MOU

 State policy should ensure that programs have access to teacher-level data (with privacy safeguards)

Common Observation Tool

 State policy should incentivize – not mandate – the use of a valid, rigorous common observation tool

Common Dispositions Tool

 State policy should incentivize – not mandate – the use of a valid, rigorous dispositions assessment

Employer & Graduate Surveys

- States and programs should jointly develop a single survey for employers, and a single survey for graduates
- An interstate compact between states to use the same surveys for this would be hugely valuable



Final takeaways

- State policy can play vital role in providing outcomes data to leaders of teacher-preparation programs. Many leaders want these data, so these policies should be developed with them at the table.
- Remember the central lesson of NCLB era: Accountability alone will not be
 enough. Programs will need help in order to improve. States should not
 provide this help directly, but rather find ways to incentivize programs to
 seek out the support they will need.
- Heavy-handed mandates will be met with fierce resistance. States may
 want to start with "coalitions of the willing" and build out from there. The
 field is in flux, so now is the time for innovative policy solutions.



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