

AGS AAUDE Doctoral Completions Subcommittee Key Issues & Discussions

Our committee has identified a number of items of interest:

- Unit Record Submission
 - Because Doc TTD is considering a move to unit record submission, we discussed whether there was a need or desire to make a similar move for Doc Completions.
 - Further consideration should be given to what benefits unit record submission gives the item as a whole and what trade-offs would be made in terms of ease of preparing submissions.
 - Further discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of aligning with submission formats of the other doctoral items is needed. Discussion of whether there are benefits of linking across items is also necessary.
- Declining Participation from 2014 to 2016
 - Participation in the Doctoral Completions item has declined from 2014 when AAU was strongly encouraging membership to submit to the doctoral items.
 - The reason for the decline is not clear.
- Cohort Codes
 - They were originally conceived as a way to differentiate between programs where intent to complete a doctoral degree is known and those where the intention is not certain.
 - A better understanding of if and how these are utilized when completions data is used is necessary.
 - Now that the warehouse has several years of data, further investigation into whether there are meaningful differences across cohort codes should be considered.
- Holder/Feeder Programs
 - Use of feeder programs (where students are admitted to a general area of study then select a degree program after some amount of time or coursework) make submission to doctoral completions difficult.
 - We

Next steps:

- Using the key issues as a guide, develop and administer a survey to AAUDE membership and also possibly to AGS.
- Analyze and make recommendations based on the results.