Getting Past the NRC Rankings

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Objectives

1. Brief review of Range of Rankings
2. Getting the big picture during the embargo period
3. Communicating the results internally
4. Preparing to face the media
5. Some questions
Overall Rating AND Dimensional Measures

• Student Treatment and Outcomes
• Diversity
• Scholarly Productivity of Program Faculty

Dimensional Measures add information to the overall rankings
The Twenty Key Variables

- Publications
- Citations (exc. Humanities)
- Percent faculty with grants
- Awards per faculty
- Percent 1st Yr. Full Support
- Percent 1st Yr. National Fellowship
- Percent Completing in 6 yrs. or less (8 yrs. for humanities)
- Median Time to degree
- Students with Academic Plans
- Collects Outcomes data

- Percent Faculty Minority
- Percent Faculty Female
- Percent Students Minority
- Percent Students Female
- Percent Students International
- Percent Interdisciplinary
- Average GRE-Q
- Number of PhDs 2002-2006
- Student Workspace
- Student Health Insurance
- Student Activities
Dimensional Rankings for Our Sample Program

• Overall Measure: 45-56

• Research Activity: 21-31

• Student Support and Outcomes: 74-87

• Diversity of the Academic Environment: 64-77
### Overall Rankings Grid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Select UR programs</th>
<th>NRC Taxonomy</th>
<th># ranked</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>High</td>
<td>Low</td>
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**NRC Sample:**
- Economics overall: Economics, 117, 45, 56, 51, 62, 52, 57
- Economics research: Economics, 117, 21, 31, 26, 82, 74, 78
Questions:

1. To rank or not to rank?
2. “Range of Rankings” only?
3. Individual variable comparisons?
4. Program "neighbors?"
5. When are neighbors not neighbors?
6. Reporting the findings to university officials?
7. PR/media communications?
8. The "other" dimensional measures?
9. Other measures we will be able to use?
10. How to use the extensive descriptive data?