Staffing Update

In September of 2014 the OIRAE briefing focused on staffing changes at Purdue between 2001 and 2013. It was noted that the largest percentage of growth in staffing categories was in administrative staff, particularly among research functions. By 2013, Purdue University had in its employ, 6,988 administrative, clerical, professional, and service staff and 2,011 faculty of rank. By 2015, the number of staff had decreased 1.6% to 6,873 and the number of faculty had grown 6.1% to 2,134. This briefing is an update to the previous report by examining where the changes have occurred. For the purpose of this analysis, Temporary Staff, Extension Educators, Visiting Faculty, Graduate Student Staff, Post Docs, Adjunct Faculty, and Lecturers are not included.

University Staff

The decrease in staff has occurred primarily in the administrative units at the University, whereas staff levels have increased in the colleges. The administrative units reduced staff by 289 (6.4%). Included in the decrease are 150 staff members that moved with the University Development Office (UDO) to Purdue Research Foundation during 2013-14. This nets a decrease of 139 (3.2%) staff in the administrative units. The decrease in staff in the University’s administrative units comes in the areas of service staff (down 65, 4.2%), administrative staff (down 120, 7.0% - or accounting for UDO up 6, 0.0%), and clerical staff (down 94, 17.2% - or accounting for UDO down 79, 14.8%).

Conversely, the colleges saw an increase of 174 staff members between 2013 and 2015. This increase was primarily in the areas of administrative staff (increase of 94, 18.0%) and professional staff (increase of 87, 8.3%). As you can see in Figure 2, the College of Agriculture appears to have decreased by 14 staff, however after accounting for the shift of 43 people from the Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab out of the College of Agriculture and into the College of Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture actually had an increase in 29 (4.2%) staff members. This increase was largely professional and administrative staff. The College of Engineering’s increase of 59 (14.8%) staff members was also from professional and administrative staff changes. Another large increase was seen in the College of Health and Human Sciences. Their increase of 45 (12.8%) staff was comprised mainly of service, professional, and administrative staff. An increase of 23 (29.1%) was seen in Purdue Polytechnic Institute, here the increase was in administrative staff. It should be noted that Medical Education and the Honors Colleges are listed under Office of the Provost.
Staffing Update

Faculty of Rank
Of the 123 (6.1%) faculty of rank increase, tenure and tenure-track faculty account for a rise of 83 and research, clinical, and professional faculty account for a rise of 40. In 2015 there were 70 faculty members that did not report to one of the ten academic colleges. These faculty work in the Honors College, Medical Education, Libraries, University Bands, Graduate School Administration, and Discovery Park.

The College of Engineering and the College of Science saw the largest areas of growth, accounting for two thirds of the overall faculty growth. Education also saw a large relative increase of 14.5%. These values can be seen in Figure 5.

Clinical, Professional, and Research Faculty made up 9.5% of the total faculty in 2015. The 25% University-wide increase in this category over the last two years is entirely due to a 35% increase specifically in Clinical/Professional positions (126 -> 170) as we note there was an 11% decrease in Research positions (36 ->32). The College of Pharmacy, College of Veterinary Medicine, and College Health and Human Sciences have the largest make-up in the category at 30.7%, 27.9%, and 20% respectively. However, the growth of these positions over the last two years within those colleges was only 5% (92 ->97) compared to a 50% increase (70 -> 105) of such positions outside of these colleges.

The Provost’s Office reports planned faculty recruitment for hire in fiscal year 2017 in Figure 4 below.

Conclusion
Since the last staffing report in 2013 the administrative units within Purdue have decreased their staffing. Outside of the movement of the University Development Office the decrease has been a continuing of the trend of declining service and clerical staff, although administrative positions reversed their increased trend from the previous report.

Additionally, Purdue has continued to invest in its faculty as the University increased both its tenure and tenure track positions and its Clinical, Professional, and Research faculty positions over the last two years. As shown in Figure 4, the trend in increasing faculty is planned to continue in fiscal year 2017. While there has been growth in staff positions within the academic schools much of the growth has occurred in the areas of the Purdue Moves strategic investments in Engineering, the Polytechnic Institute, Agriculture, and the Health Sciences.

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