

Learning Analytics for Student Success: Core Group

Purpose

To advance the learning analytics within Sol Plaatje University to enhance student support initiatives through collaborative partnerships with the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Programme Development (CTLPD), Library and Information Services and the Division of Student Affairs (DSA). Further, to create a shared system integrating student service data, academic support, library, residence, sport, health and wellness, and student development collaboratively. The system will allow for the creation of learning support pathways, including developing an early warning system to identify students at risk and proactively develop personalised support programmes.

Objectives:

- Create tools in the system that make use of a standard data format and vocabulary to maintain costs and improve research outputs
- Create a purposeful shared dashboard that leads to data that provides deeper educational insights (using predictive analytics).
- Ensure strong documentation and implementation guidance.
- Provide professional staff capacity development in learning analysis literacy.

Key Metrics

- Reduction in manual data capturing and reconciliation time.
- Increased cross-divisions' data visibility.
- Increased number of early identification of students at risk.
- Increased number of students participating in proactive interventions.
- Reduction in at-risk student dropout rates.
- Increase in the percentage of staff using the dashboard weekly.

2025 - Activities

Topic	Activities	Tasks
Planning and stakeholder engagement	• Introduce learning analytics aims and objectives. • Data inventory and standards • Governance framework	• Audit existing datasets (e.g., format and accessibility) • Agree on a common data vocabulary • Draft data sharing agreements, including who inputs, maintains and accesses the data.
Capacity Building and Training	• A series of training and development on learning analytics	• Interpreting dashboard metrics • Ethical use of data
System design and integration	• Create a centralised student information application. • Create a shared dashboard with role-based access.	• Centralised student information application • Prototype dashboard- integrate academic, psychosocial, library and performance data. • Early system warning logic-define risk threshold. • Integrate systems (IT)
Pilot testing and iterations	• Roll out the dashboard prototype for inputs.	• Rollout to small group (e.g., 1st years in campus housing) • Track false/negative alerts • Conduct surveys/focus groups on the usefulness of the dashboard
Documentation, Research Integration and scaling	• Develop procedures and guidelines for data management. • Publish findings on student success using system data • Scale deployment across faculties and divisions	• Outline purpose, principle, procedures, roles and responsibilities. • Develop user and technical guides. • Publish on student success-retention, holistic well-being, effective support services, etc. • Map annual scale deployment.

Stakeholders:

[illegible]