E2C Hub Research Advisory Committee Meeting

May 13, 2025

Members Attending	Agency Staff Attending
- Monnica Chan - Sarah Cohodes - Chris Cleveland - Wil Del Pilar - Shaun Dougherty - Anne Douglass - Brian Gill - Dan Goldhaber - Yoonsook Katie Ha - Penny Hasseli - Jeremiah Johnson - Amaris Kinne - Anne McKenzie - Shanette Porter - Pinghui Wu	- David Bogojevich - Symantha Clough - Mario Delci - Matt Deninger - Danielle Kane - Sam Ribnick - Katie Singer - Suzanne Smith

Recap of last meeting

1. Research Enclave vs. Public Research Files
    a. Feedback from you, public research files is not a valuable use of resources
    b. Enclave, potential concerns that it would add steps to process of working with data but also encouragement it could help to bring in more sources of data into SLDS. Will continue to explore during capital period.
    c. Jeremiah: security and public trust are key issues to socialize
        i. On the benefits, the one that matters to me is potentially linking to other types of data. If that doesn't happen, the enclave isn't worth it to me.
    d. Dan: greatest challenge is the way researchers tend to work: writing up results and realizing we have to run one more model, will that add delays
    e. Sam: In ADRF, is that the case that you have to go back for approval
        i. Monnica: approval was required to pull the results out
        ii. Dan: The enclave in WA works like ADRF and we are not supposed to be doing screen shots (not sure if it's even possible w/ the enclave)

iii. Chris Cleveland: Confirming this is essentially E2C running its own secure environment e.g.: https://docs.ccv.brown.edu/stronghold
    f. Shaun: other states have created defacto enclaves through AWS that are user friendly but still meet the secure environment for public trust
2. Review of vision statement/researcher role

General updates

3. Katie Singer, new E2C Hub Project Lead, comes from NEBHE where she worked on data hub project there
4. Ellen Song has moved to new role in EEC, will be looking to backfill with a contractor
5. Research agendas updated and posted online: https://educationtocareer.data.mass.gov/stories/s/t8je-96t9
6. Bad news: wage match at an impasse
    a. Message will be shared with researchers
    b. When LWD entered agreement in 2019, they had snapshot of RMV database to crosswalk, but did not have ongoing ability to refresh. Initially had successful matches for graduates, now for students without a SS number, only getting 2% match
7. Research proposal portal to submit projects and monitor status of submissions, data request lookup
    a. Will have everyone in one place
    b. Anyone willing to be a beta tester?
        i. Jeremiah: I have an idea for a research project, but I don't have funding. We would need DESE to partner. Lots of different types of research come up and wondering if there will be guidance about how to use portal.
        ii. Matt: Either way it's going to get funneled to me.
        iii. This should be used for request where you will need an MOU
8. Hiring research and equity specialist
    a. Dan: How concerned are you about having equity in title?
        i. Sam: 1. Process for hiring is so lengthy we submitted prior to current administration 2. Leadership wants us to keep going as we have. State funded position, not federal. Lot of people looking for this type of role right now. If not successful hiring in this round, we may reevaluate.
9. RAC membership plan
    a. End of 2-year commitment. Let us know if you want to continue and then will go out for recruitment and try to balance for roles, orgs, research focus

i. Monnica: good job with presenting goals, are there key items that you feel this group would be helpful for?
            a. Sam: great point, will put something together
      ii. Dan: this group is a good size, larger groups can be unwieldy
      iii. Sarah: You have a good pool to recruit from. You have a group of researchers who have DUA with department, it might be good to have people randomly selected from that. Consider people who have not been able to successfully launch a project.
      iv. Anne McK: really happy to be here but as a K-12 supt, I don't bring a lot forward, but people do ask how university studies help us
            a. Sam: Like development of research agenda, helpful to have researchers and practitioner input
            b. Chris: consider if this group includes researchers and leaders or separate into distinct groups
10. Data stories
      a. Early Literacy Screeners
      b. MassCore
      c. HS Pathways and Workforce Development
      d. College Costs
            i. Anne: does that take into consideration Early College?
                  a. Sam: Good point, we could at least acknowledge its influence
            ii. Chris: Brookings has a piece about the 'sticker price of college' that might be useful framing for the college costs piece: https://www.brookings.edu/articles/ignore-the-sticker-price-how-have-college-prices-really-changed/
      e. Cell phone policy
            i. Sarah: Brian Jacob has done work on this in MI
            ii. Anne: consider self-reported data vs. disciplinary data
            iii. Dan: Enforcement of policy is more important than policy
            iv. Chris: I did some unpublished work on cell phone bans based on an NYC 2014 policy
            v. Dan: Sam, take a look at this: https://caldercenter.org/publications/call-coming-inside-school-how-well-does-cell-phone-data-predict-whether-k12-school
            vi. Matt: https://www.phonesinfocus.org/

Updates on existing research

11. How do we show what research is being done, and how it's addressing the research agenda
    a. Sarah: Unfortunately, people are using FOIA to request research in progress and preload their political arguments. Triggered by public funds.
        i. Sam: maybe get determination from legal office on that
        ii. Matt: never had public records request asking for drafts (Sarah says it's happening in MI)
    b. Shaun: Could I search based on topic areas?
    c. Jeremiah: where is this going to live? Not a lot of funneling from DESE to E2C Hub. How will it be communicated?
        i. Sam: Proposal submission is its own application on the web, links to it from various places
    d. Anne D: will research portal will eventually include DHE and EEC? I think this could have great value in early ed space. Access to information to see who is doing more work, collaborating, forming research communities. Would be happy to see EEC take this on. I would like the opportunity to input a project related to research agenda and see others' projects.
    e. Anne M: Info extremely useful to K-12 and higher ed leaders. It is an area parents ask about a lot.
    f. Dan: Build into data sharing agreements so it's clear that it's going to happen

Briefing on MA Trends

12. Notes from [Breakout rooms](#)

Wrap up

13. We will engage RAC in E2C Hub's annual review before term ends this summer