Lumina Grant Progress Report for August 2014

SITAR (Strategic IT Assessment Report)

Work in August focused on developing a prototype of the strategic IT assessment report (SITAR) and preparing for focus group research to be conducted at the EDUCAUSE annual conference at the end of September. Activities included:

- Drafting a set of institutional strategic priorities. During a meeting in early August, the IT Assessment & Benchmarking Advisory Board (ITABAB) expressed the importance of tying the data in SITAR to the strategic priorities of the institution. This feedback was timely and we were able to integrate strategic priorities into the SITAR prototype. The draft set of priorities included in the prototype evolved from a high-level review of a cross-section of institutional strategic plans and the 2014 Top 10 IT Issues report. This list of priorities will need further revision, but we feel that our initial list is sufficient for the report prototype. This approach also builds in the ability to update the institutional strategic objectives section to ensure it remains contemporary.

- Drafting the SITAR. After we drafted the list of strategic priorities, the rest of the report fell into place. The SITAR prototype contains two main sections: (1) an assessment of IT capabilities as they relate to institutional strategy and (2) an assessment of IT capabilities as they relate to IT operational goals. The prototype will be finalized in early September and sent to focus group participants during the week of September 15, 2014.

- Preparing for focus group research. To evaluate the value, content, design and structure of the SITAR we plan to conduct three focus groups with CIOs at the EDUCAUSE annual conference on September 30, 2014 and October 1, 2014. In preparation for these focus groups, we scheduled sessions, selected a sample of potential participants and invited potential participants. Each focus group will have between five and seven participants.

- Iterating pricing model work. In preparation for a discussion with the EDUCAUSE board about pricing models for SITAR, we reviewed and refined our initial pricing model work.

Higher Education Research Briefs

We further enhanced the dissemination strategy of the four higher education research briefs. As of this writing (September 10, 2014), we also produced and published the briefs.

- All four briefs are now available our website at [https://www.educause.edu/library/resources/resources-presidents-and-senior-executives](https://www.educause.edu/library/resources/resources-presidents-and-senior-executives)

- Include the relevant briefs in EDUCAUSE 2015 marketing “power plays,” an enhancement of EDUCAUSE’s marketing capability we are developing for release in 2015.

Project Status: On track

Risks, Issues, or Concerns: None

Priorities for September:
● Research
  ○ Finalize prototype of the strategic IT assessment report.
  ○ Send SITAR prototype to focus group participants and other interested stakeholders.
  ○ Begin to assess the value and content organization of the SITAR.
● Development
  ○ N/A
● Sustainability
  ○ Discuss sustainability options with the EDUCAUSE board.
● Administrative
  ○ Tracking and reporting as agreed upon.