Newsletter – February 2016

Presented below are the elements of the New Landscape and the projects underway to establish these elements.

1. Collective Governance and Oversight

The details around the establishment of the landscape governance body – as set out in the HEDIIP New Landscape report - will go to the HESA Programme Board and the HEDIIP Programme Board in February.

Inventory Review

The Inventory Review project published two questionnaires, one for data collectors and one for HE providers, to understand the value of the current Inventory of HE Data Collections and also understand any requirements for further development. The deadline for responses to these questionnaires was 31 January and 63 responses were received. The questionnaires have also been accompanied by a number of phone interviews with data collectors and HE Providers (32 interviews to date). The next step in the project is to analyse the responses from the questionnaires and phone interviews in order to develop a proposal for development of the Inventory. This development work is scheduled to be undertaken between February and July.

Inventory Review project	https://hediip.ac.uk/inventory-review/

2. Standard HE Dataset

Data Language

The Data Language project has met with a number of data collectors and HE Providers to gather intelligence on the student data currently being collected and also understand any future requirements. A straw man logical student data model was developed as a very early proposal for a new HESA student data collection and has been published to the HEDIIP website for comment. This document is accompanied by a Glossary of Terms and examples of using the data model.

A second round of meetings has been scheduled to discuss the data model in detail. Three workshops with HE providers are taking place in February, individual meetings are taking place with software suppliers and a meeting with the Data Collector Technical Working Group is arranged. This feedback will be used to inform a second iteration of the model which the project team is hoping to have developed by the conference season, including sessions at the SROC and AUA conferences.

Data Language Discussion Page	https://hediip.ac.uk/he-data-language-discussion/
HE Provider Workshops	https://hediip.ac.uk/he-data-language/

Unique Learner Number

ULN implementation partners are continuing to progress their work packages to adopt the ULN in Higher Education. UCAS communications were sent to improve the number of ULNs submitted in the UCAS application form and also encourage HE Providers to capture the ULN from the UCAS data file. The number of ULNs submitted in UCAS applications has seen a slight increase from the previous year. HESA have continued to work with HE Providers to improve the quality of ULNs and SCNs submitted in the HESA Student Record and there has been a decrease in duplicates of both ULNs and SCNs. Meetings are being scheduled between implementation partners to further discuss SFA services required by HESA and UCAS, for example ULN verification.

Discussions have continued with organisations in Scotland with regard to ULN and SCN interoperability. The HEDIIP PMO also continues to work closely with Health Education England on the question of ULN adoption.

ULN project	http://hediip.ac.uk/the-uln-in-he/

Subject Coding

The full set of Subject Coding documents, including the HECoS coding system itself, was published to the HEDIIP website in December. A third, and final, stage of this project will agree a transition plan, produce a common aggregation hierarchy and mapping, and deliver training and resources. It is anticipated that Stage 3 will commence in February and end with handover to HESA in July 2016.

Subject Coding Report Library	https://www.hediip.ac.uk/subject-coding-report-library/

3. Transformed HESA Collection

HESA Data Futures

The results of the HESA Data Futures consultation have been published. 128 responses to the consultation were received: 91.4% were supportive of the overall direction of travel; 7.0% stated that they could not express a clear overall view at this early stage in the planning process; and 1.6% were explicitly unsupportive of the direction of travel. HESA is now discussing the next phases of the Data Futures programme with the UK funding bodies, while embarking on detailed preparatory scoping and planning activity.

Data Futures Consultation results	https://www.hesa.ac.uk/df_consultation

4. Improved Data Capability

Data Capability

Data Capability – a call to action was published in early January as an analysis of the sector's data management capability. Overall the sector was a 'reactive' maturity level and the report presented five key findings:

1. The way data is perceived is not the way it is managed
2. Data is held, managed and used in silos
3. Data is not aligned to wider business processes
4. Business intelligence is not supplied by trusted data
5. Data governance is weak.

Data Capability 3 has now commenced and will continue to provide support to those wishing to start the improvement process, and those already embarking on change. The project will also work towards sustaining the toolkit and the positive work being undertaking post-HEDIIP. Five regional data capability workshops are open for bookings in April and May; these workshops will build on the seminars delivered in 2015 and will provide colleagues with the opportunity to share experiences and good practice.

The project is also looking for a few small institutions to take part in workshops to develop a quick start toolkit.

Data Capability – a call to action	https://www.hediip.ac.uk/data-capability-a-call-to-action/
Data Capability workshops	https://www.hesa.ac.uk/seminars-2015

About HEDIIP

The Higher Education Data & Information Improvement Programme has been established to redesign the information landscape in order to arrive at a new system that reduces the burden on data providers and improves the quality, timeliness and accessibility of data and information about HE. The programme is hosted by HESA and is funded by:

HEDIIP is overseen by a Programme Board and supported by an Advisory Panel.

Programme Board	http://www.hediip.ac.uk/hediip-programme-board/
Advisory Panel	http://www.hediip.ac.uk/hediip-advisory-panel/

You can follow @HEDIIP on Twitter or contribute to the debate on the HEDIIP Jiscmail list.
You can email the Programme Management Office at info@hediip.ac.uk.