Unicon team learning analytics readiness assessment offering

The readiness assessment offering is intended to be a shared, facilitated, discovery process that will address the needs for your institution regarding learning analytics and its use on your campus. You will also receive an assessment documenting your institution's overall readiness for implementation.

Introduction

The readiness assessment process is designed to help your institution explore learning analytics using a collaborative approach with the consultants. In an effort to tailor the readiness assessment for your institution, the consultants will provide a welcome call to begin initial discussions with your institutional representative to outline the readiness assessment offering and how it can be bespoke to your institution. The consultants will also provide an onsite, multiple day workshops and individual meetings to help your institution understand its overall readiness to implement learning analytics and to identify any work necessary before progressing towards implementation. Finally, the consultants will provide documentation and assessment recommendations to your institution to help you be able to identify your readiness regarding a technology approach toward learning analytics.

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Summary of the discovery process

Stage	Component	Purpose	Primary audience
Initial setup			
2 hours, virtual	Welcome call	» Tailor readiness assessment for your institution » Arrange housekeeping issues » Pre-visit information sharing, including: 　› your survey responses given 　› your institution's specific student base 　› your institution's student challenges you are currently facing 　› areas you feel we will be able to assist with regarding those identified challenges 　› your thoughts regarding potential benefits and challenges regarding learning analytics implementation at your institution	Institutional representatives
Readiness assessment			
1 day	Awareness raising and goal setting	» Explore learning analytics in practice » Consider current and future application in your institution	Broad range of stakeholders
½ day	Organisational readiness	» Identify practice, process and policies affected by learning analytics	Operational staff
½ day	Technical readiness	» Explore the Jisc framework elements » Integration and data considerations	Technical staff
1 day	Individual interviews	» Share information gained from the sessions » Address any concerns » Consider next steps	High-level stakeholders and decision makers
Report and Feedback (within 1-2 weeks from onsite visit)	Offsite development (by Unicon consultants)	» Assessment and recommendations regarding your institution's readiness for further implementation phases » Initial draft sent virtually to your institution within 1-2 weeks of onsite visit (further discussion with you regarding our findings is available as well)	Unicon consultants

Initial setup and welcome call

Purpose

Initial discussions with your institutional representative to outline the readiness assessment offering and how it can be bespoke to your institution.

Who needs to be involved?

Your institutional representative, as well as whomever you feel would be appropriate.

Time Commitment

2 hours; virtual presence

What will we do?

» Take a collaborative approach toward helping your institution identify the best readiness assessment approach along with self-discovery throughout the entire process

» Explore many facets of your institution with you, including your:
  › Jisc survey responses given
  › institution's specific student base
  › institution's student challenges you are currently facing
  › areas you feel we will be able to assist with regarding those identified challenges
  › thoughts regarding potential benefits and challenges regarding learning analytics implementation at your institution

» Discuss bespoke options for your institution regarding how to approach the Readiness assessment process, including:
  › learning analytics overviews and goal setting
  › organisational and technical explorations
  › benefits and challenges of learning analytics.

Outcomes

» Opportunity to provide a good overview of your institution's student base, current challenges, how we might be able to help with those challenges and your thoughts regarding learning analytics implementation at your institution

» Participate in collaborative discussions regarding the options for readiness assessment approaches

» Opportunity to have a bespoke readiness assessment approach with options based on the current state of your university as it relates to Learning analytics implementation

Readiness assessment

Purpose

The readiness assessment process will help your institution understand its overall readiness to implement Learning analytics and to identify any work necessary before progressing towards implementation.

Who needs to be involved?

Some examples include (Note: For each department or area we would suggest having both academic staff as well as administrative individuals involved.) :

» eLearning
» IT services
» Academic tutoring services
» Student support services
» Research and planning
» Registrar's office
» High level stakeholders and "decision makers"
» Any other "decision makers" for your institution who will benefit from or need to support learning analytics

Time commitment: Three days - workshops and meetings will take place over the course of two days with individual follow up meetings on the third day. However, you will not need everyone to be present for each day's events.

What will we do?

» Walk your institution through a general overview of Learning analytics

» Help your institution outline overall Learning analytics goals and objectives

» Facilitate discussions with those involved surrounding topics such as:
  › General technical conversations
  › Organisational elements (ex – policies, procedures, practices)
  › Potential challenges/obstacles and benefits

» Meet individually with stakeholders to discuss Learning analytics questions and overall strategy

Outcomes

Those who participate in the readiness assessment will:

» have a good overview of Learning analytics in general, including:
  › How it benefits your institution
  › What the challenges might be present
  › What elements (resources, organisational, technical) you will need to have in place before the next steps

» have a good overview of the status of your institution from a technical and organisational (operations, strategy, etc.) perspective as it relates to a successful next steps, including deployment

» be able to identify potential challenges that may jeopardise or prevent a successful Learning analytics technology solution implementation (from both a technical and organisational perspective)

» be able to identify your readiness regarding a technology approach toward Learning analytics and make a decision about your institution's next steps. Should you choose to go with the Unicon offering, the next step is an Implementation planning session as well as some training and remote configuration follow up

Unicon overview

Unicon, Inc., headquartered in the Phoenix, Arizona metropolitan area, was founded in 1993 to deliver high-quality consulting services to the education marketplace and to organizations that support education (EdTech). For over 22 years Unicon has provided clients with 'best-fit' solutions to meet the technology needs of their organization.

Unicon has a focus and background in education technology including domain knowledge in learning analytics, learning theory, assessment and content delivery at scale, identity and access management, and integrations. This domain knowledge allows Unicon to get up-to-speed quickly on client projects but also gives us historical knowledge on where problems often occur within the learning environment. Unicon's experience in delivering large-scale technology solutions as well as knowledge of performance and scalability testing methodologies and tools combine to form a comprehensive team that can deliver the various consulting services outlined in this document. With over 20 years of experience in integrating both open source and proprietary systems, clients count on Unicon's high-quality, high-performance results.

Unicon's areas of expertise:
» Learning analytics
» Architecture and infrastructure
» Integrations
» Custom development
» Learning management systems
» Single sign on
» Enterprise portals
» Federated identity management
» Software process/lifecycle

Marist overview

Marist College, recognized for excellence by U.S. News and World Report, Time, and "The Princeton Review," and by "Barron's Best Buys in College Education," is noted for its leadership in the use of technology to enhance the teaching and learning process.

Founded in 1929, Marist's 210-acre campus overlooks the Hudson river in the heart of the historic Hudson valley, midway between New York City and Albany, the state capital. What started as a school for the training of future Marist Brothers has developed into one of the leading colleges of the arts and sciences in the nation. Marist is ecumenical in character and reflects the ideals of the founder of the Marist Brothers, St. Marcellin Champagnat: commitment to excellence in education, a pursuit of higher human values, and dedication to the principle of service.

Marist is dedicated to helping students develop the intellect and character required for enlightened, ethical, and productive lives in the global community of the 21st century.

Consultants

Lindsay Pineda

Lindsay Pineda is a Senior Implementation Consultant for Unicon with over 12 years of experience implementing and managing large scale projects and teams. She has served in many roles within the in Higher Education and Information Technology landscapes and this has allowed her to gain knowledge in several areas including project team management, resource management, communications, customer operations, change management, process improvement and documentation and training. She also has experience with predictive analytics, learning analytics, learning management systems, and assessments. She also holds a Project Management Professional certification (PMI-PMP) and is a Certified Scrum Master (CSM).

Lindsay Pineda has a rich background in learner/predictive analytics and has had experience with projects in which the development, implementation and execution of Learning Analytics technology that has proven to be successful. She has immersed herself in learning/predictive analytics research, practical applications and explored various analytics software. She speaks at conferences regarding the practice of using analytics data and has become an advocate for educating others on how to use the data to assist them with creating an increasingly positive student experience as well as contribute positively to overall academic analytics (including ROI, increased retention rates and increased graduation rates).

Patrick Lynch

Patrick has worked in UK H.E for over 25 years. He is currently employed by the University of Hull as a technology enhanced learning adviser. Patrick has many years of experience working on large projects in technology enhanced learning. A number of those projects involved working with F.E colleges as partners. Patrick has managed in many environments leading change and is also a teacher and a Fellow of the Higher education academy. Patrick is working as a consultant with Unicon for the Effective learning analytics project.

As well as being the learning analytics lead at the University, Patrick is also the communications officer for the Apereo learning analytics initiative community, see apereo.org/communities/learning-analytics-initiative. Patrick has been working in learning analytics using a variety of tools and has presented at UK and European conferences. He is passionate about improving the student experience and students' success. Patrick is trained in business consulting and holds a PGCert in performance coaching. These approaches help to define Patrick's values and behaviours.