

CASE STUDY

Automating Report Delivery for Enrollment, Retention, Finance, and Compliance

Loras College, a small private college in Dubuque, Iowa

- About: Loras College is a private Catholic college with 1,300 undergraduate students.
- Challenge: Faced with a dip in retention, Loras College's CFO and VP of Enrollment Management needed a fast, centralized enrollment and revenue report. However, the report required data from several platforms and offices, and obtaining that data required a cumbersome sequence of SQL queries, conversations, and manual updates. Additionally, the report was only available in a one-size-fits-all format, restricting its utility for each individual decision-maker. Compounding the problem, the department was short two of its usual five FTEs.
- **Solution:** Loras built workflows in Rapid Insight that automatically gather data from the student information system and other campus sources. The workflows include a predictive model that forecasts enrollment and revenue for coming terms. The data exports to an intuitive, customizable dashboard, equipping the CFO, VPEM, and other stakeholders to view the data in whichever format best enables them to make decisions.
- Impact: The weekly enrollment report, which formerly required 4 hours of convoluted SQL queries, now takes only fifteen minutes to create. Based on the success Loras had using Rapid Insight for its weekly enrollment reports, Loras expanded its use of Rapid Insight to IPEDS (which now takes less than three hours per submission cycle) and more than fifty other reports.



3

staff able to handle workload of 5 FTEs

10

days of staff time saved annually on prep for weekly enrollment report

50+

reports (internal and external) automated in Rapid Insight

Rapid Insight Eliminates Confusing and Cumbersome SQL Queries

Data workflows create a faster, more comprehensible process

Former Process



Consult three databases, several hold tables, and numerous Excel sheets to gather the required data



Run 28 SQL queries and 11 VBA modules



Triage and repair any broken queries



Send emails requesting missing data



Wait for tables and data to load and validate



Report Ready

Weekly time commitment: **3-4 hours**

New Rapid Insight Process



Rapid Insight automatically pulls processes and exports data



Make occasional updates to refresh workflows



Report Ready

Weekly time commitment: 15 minutes

Advanced Report Equips Administrative Council to Act

Multi-faceted report facilitates strategic decisions in multiple departments



Enrollment

VP of Enrollment Management can forecast financial aid outlay



Finance

CFO can view retention estimates by cohort and net tuition and fees revenue



Class Size

Registrar can project overall class size for the upcoming term



Course Planning

Academic Affairs can predict enrollments for general education sections based on course type and student class level



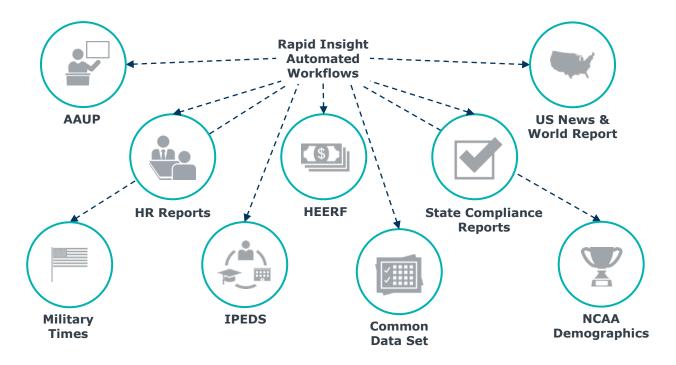
My supervisor was shocked at how many reports we complete. We've programmed every report we can. On the weekly enrollment report alone, we'll save ten days of staff time every year.

-Christopher Feit, Registrar and Director of Institutional Research, Loras College

Automating a Broad Range of Institutional Reports

Loras created data cleansing workflows for more than fifty of its compliance reports

In twenty minutes each morning, Loras refreshes workflows for all of its daily and weekly reports, and larger reports with upcoming deadlines. Previously, it took between two and forty hours to prepare data for each individual report.



To speak with an expert about bringing Rapid Insight to your campus, email **EABRapidInsightComms@eab.com** or visit **www.eab.com/RapidInsight**.