Westat’s Quantitative Evaluation of the ADVANCE Program

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Overview

• Primarily outcome evaluation
• October, 2008-July, 2011
• Two components:
  – Cohorts I and 2 of IT awardees (19)
  – 2002 and 2004 Fellows (41)
Major Activities to Date

• Development/refinement of logic models for both Fellows and IT components
• Revised Draft Evaluation Plan
• Advisory Panel Meeting April 27
Fellows Evaluation

• Research Question:
  – How do the career trajectories of Fellows compare to those of similar individuals who were not awarded these grants?
  – 2-tiered design: quasi-experimental design (QED) + descriptive
IT Evaluation

• Research Question:
  – How do selected gender equity outcomes for STEM women faculty, at both the individual and institutional levels, compare between the 19 IT grantee institutions and other similar U.S. colleges and universities?—Tier A
IT Evaluation

• Research Question:
  – How have the IT activities been implemented and how successful have the grantees been at achieving medium- and long-term outcomes and longer-term impacts, and how do the 19 grantees compare with one another in these regards? — Tier B
IT Evaluation

• Research Question:

– What innovative institutional-level measures of changes in gender equity climate and climate and practices can be developed, and how can these be applied to evaluating the outcomes of the IT awards?—Tier C
3-Tiered Design

- Tier A—Quasi-Experimental Design (QED): 1st Research Question
  - Comparison of changes over time on selected gender equity outcomes for 19 IT grantees with Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR) data for similar institutions (based on Carnegie classification)
3-Tiered Design (cont’d)

• Tier B—Internal comparison (descriptive) of 19 IT grantees: 2nd Research Question
  – Focus on additional outcomes (not in SDR) as well as some data on project implementation
3-Tiered Design (cont’d)

• Tier C—Defining/developing institutional-level outcome indicators of positive gender equity climate/practices: 3rd Research Question
  – Looking for outcome measures that reflect culture/structure of IHEs—not %’s of individuals
Data Sources: Secondary

• Literature review
  – Including publications on IT ADVANCE, outcome measures, institutional culture, institutional barriers to women in STEM

• Project document review
  – E.g., annual reports, final reports, other relevant documents
Data Sources: Primary

• 1-time mail survey w/telephone follow-up as needed--2 parts:
  – Questions on project outcomes and implementation for PI/co-PI
  – Collection of outcome data: designee
  – Common core of outcome data across all 19; for a purposive subset of projects, will go deeper into outcome data
Data Sources: Primary (cont’d)

• Survey
  – Mostly close-ended
  – In development
  – Likely late Fall 2009/early Winter 2010
Conclusions

• Any questions?
• In time remaining: we need your help in providing feedback on possible survey items for IT PI survey: Handout/discussion
For Further Information

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THANKS!