



TASK FORCE BIAS ANALYSIS

A chi-square analysis was conducted to look at whether the distribution of recommended quintile rankings may have been biased in any way as a function of membership on the Academic and Support Services taskforces. In this context, “membership” is meant to be a way to describe whether a college or administrative unit did, or did not have, a member from their unit participate on the task force. The chi-square test provides a way to examine whether there is an association between quintile recommendations and membership. To do this, the chi-square test determines what distribution of templates across quintiles would be expected based on chance probability (no association between membership and recommendations) and then compares this to the actual count of templates to evaluate whether the number of observations is significantly different from what chance would predict.

Support Services Recommendations: Information on quintile recommendations for programs and services showed that there is a statistically significant association (or dependence) between a college/administrative unit having membership on the Support Services task force and the recommendations for quintile rankings. Following additional analysis, it appears that the source of this connection shows up in Quintile 1 and Quintile 5 recommendations. For example, when a college/administrative unit had a member on the task force, their templates were more likely to receive a recommendation for Quintile 1 (than would be expected on the basis of chance). Looking at the table, we see that 34 templates received a ranking of Quintile 1 when colleges/administrative units had a member on the task force. If there was no connection between membership and recommendation, we would expect to see only 22 templates falling into Quintile 1 for this "member present" group. Correspondingly, when a college/administrative unit did not have a member serving on the task force, their templates were less likely to receive a recommendation for Quintile 1 (see Table 1, 12 templates observed in Q1 with 24 templates expected on the basis of chance for this "member not present" group). Looking at the other end of the range, when college/administrative units had a member serving on the task force, templates from that unit were less likely to receive a recommendation of Q5 (22 templates) than would be expected in the absence of a connection between membership and recommendation (33 templates would be expected). The Quintile 5 recommendations for those college/administrative units without members on the task force did not vary reliably from what would be expected on the basis of chance. Similarly, recommendations involving Quintiles 2, 3 and 4 did not show evidence of the connection between membership and recommendations.

Table 1: Support Programs		Quintile				
		1	2	3	4	5
Member Present	Expected Count	22	62	26	44	33
	Observed Count	34*	68	25	38	22*
Member not Present	Expected Count	24	66	28	47	36
	Observed Count	12*	60	29	53	47

*Significant at the 0.05 level





Academic Recommendations: There is no statistical evidence of a connection between whether a college had membership on the Academic Task Force and the quintile recommendations that emerged from the process.

Table 2: Academic Programs		Quintile				
		1	2	3	4	5
Member Present	Expected Count	15	129	104	96	88
	Observed Count	15	131	104	93	88
Member not Present	Expected Count	2	14	12	11	10
	Observed Count	1	12	11	14	10

