Higher education policy analysis involves a complex web of issues, topics, and questions. These topics are of importance to students, institutional leaders, and higher education policy makers at the institution, state, and national level. In an effort to adequately address these complex questions, higher education policy analysts and researchers need to collect and have access to relevant data and be equipped with appropriate sophisticated analytical tools.

This workshop introduces participants to a wide range of sophisticated policy analysis tools that can be used to address important questions in higher education and other areas of concern to policy analysts and researchers. The workshop would address issues ranging from survey design, assessment of surveys to the construction and use of customized datasets. Based on their interests, participants are instructed on how to design and evaluate surveys, build, and customize datasets from a variety of sources to create cross-sectional, time-series, and panel datasets to address policy-relevant questions. Participants will also be instructed in the use of appropriate statistical techniques such as: descriptive statistics; factor analysis; ordinary least squares (OLS); logistic and fixed-effects and random-effects regression techniques to address a variety of research and policy questions.

This workshop is designed to introduce to and re-orient participants with the analytical tools that are necessary to address important and complex higher education policy-relevant questions. The workshop will include examples of such policy questions and the appropriate analytical tools that are needed to address those questions. Using Stata (a statistical software program), participants in the workshop will be given the opportunity to learn and utilize specific statistical techniques to address policy research questions of interest to them. The workshop will focus on the applications of various statistical techniques to higher education policy analysis rather than the theories underlying those techniques. Because the workshop will use a hands-on approach to instruction, participants are strongly encouraged to bring their own laptops (PC or Macs) and a set of research questions that are of interest to them.
By the end of this workshop, participants would have:

- identified germane secondary data sources to address a higher education policy question;
- designed and customized their own dataset; and
- identified and used an analytical technique with a pertinent customized dataset to address a specific higher education policy question.

Required text: None

Required software: Stata, provided free for participants who pay the full price (see below).

A Pre-ASHE Conference Workshop for Higher Education Policy Analysts and Researchers

Dates: November 17-18, 2013 (Monday – Tuesday)

Time
Continental Breakfast: 08:30 AM – 09:00 AM

Sessions: 09:00 AM – 04:30 PM

Lunch (on your own): 12:00 PM – 01:00 PM

Location Stamp Union Building, Room TBA

University of Maryland, College Park MD 20742

Participants: Minimum 20, Maximum 36

Registration Fee: $595 ($395 for full-time students)

The $595 registration includes course materials (including the use of Stata software for one year) and continental breakfasts. The $395 registration for full-time students does not include Stata. (Full-time students may purchase the student version of Stata for as low as $69). All participants are responsible for their lunches, lodging, evening meals and parking.)

Cancellation Policy:

- The University of Maryland reserves the right to cancel a workshop given insufficient registration, with a full refund of the workshop fee.

- Should you find it necessary to cancel your registration, your workshop fee, less $50.00, will be refunded if notice of cancellation is received at least ten days prior to the start of the workshop.
E-mail or fax registration: contact Elaine Henry
3214 Benjamin Building
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
Email: ehenry@umd.edu
Phone: 301.405.3161
Fax: 301.405.9995

For general information about the University of Maryland, see the web site:
http://www.umd.edu/

Instructor

Dr. Marvin A. Titus is an associate professor of higher education in the new Higher Education
Student Affairs and International Education (HESI) program at the University of Maryland. He
addresses complex questions of national importance such as: what contributes to college
enrollment of adults; what factors influence degree completion; how do state higher policies
affect degree production; what is the relationship between economic growth and higher
education; and the cost efficiency of degree production. Because of the complexity of questions,
he utilizes large national as well as customized datasets and employs a variety of econometric
techniques. He holds a bachelor’s in economics and history from York College (CUNY), a
master’s in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a doctorate in
education policy and planning from the University of Maryland. Dr. Titus is also the Chair of
the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Council on Public Policy in Higher
Education.

Dr. Alberto Cabrera is a full professor in the Higher Education concentration. His research
interests include the impact of college on students, college choice, classroom experiences,
minorities in higher education, and college outcomes. He was also co-principal investigator for
the IES grant titled Dream Deferred, which provided a most comprehensive review of the impact
of GEAR UP on awareness and readiness for college among low-income middle school students.
Dr. Cabrera was the co-leader of the Diversity Institute, a project funded by NSF seeking to
create inclusive teaching practices in STEM fields. He has conducted workshops on frameworks
and methods for studying college persistence in Chile, Mexico and Brazil.

For more information about the workshop, contact: Dr. Marvin A. Titus (mtitus@umd.edu).