Upon the recommendation of the Academic Associate Vice Presidents, and following President Kassing’s approval, the restructuring of the university’s Institutional Research (IR) function within the Academic Affairs Division began in the spring 2006. Development of the IR unit included the creation of a small number of new positions and reassignment of several existing positions. The Associate Vice President for Institutional Research was hired in August 2006 to provide management and leadership for the office. This position reports to the Provost. The recruitment of four new staff members is taking place in the fall 2006 and is expected to be completed by the end of December 2006 (see the organization chart below):

With this restructuring, the Office of Institutional Research is responsible for institutional level data reporting and analysis to support strategic planning, institutional assessment, policy formation, and decision making. In fulfilling this promise, the Office of Institutional Research collects, preserves, edits, analyzes, and interprets the significant and meaningful information and disseminates it in a timely and effective manner. It is responsible for the design and production of routine and ad hoc reports for internal constituencies, federal, state, and other external agencies. The Office of Institutional Research is also charged with the development and maintenance of an integrated database and online reporting applications that incorporate University historical data from multiple sources to inform and advise University policy.

In support of strategic planning, academic program review processes and enrollment management, the Office of Institutional Research is responsible for the design and implementation of analytic studies of internal and external constituencies, and the development of assessment reports, accountability requirements, the student evaluation of teaching effectiveness program, and special projects.