Research Colloquium on Post-School Education and Training

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Higher Education and Training Information System

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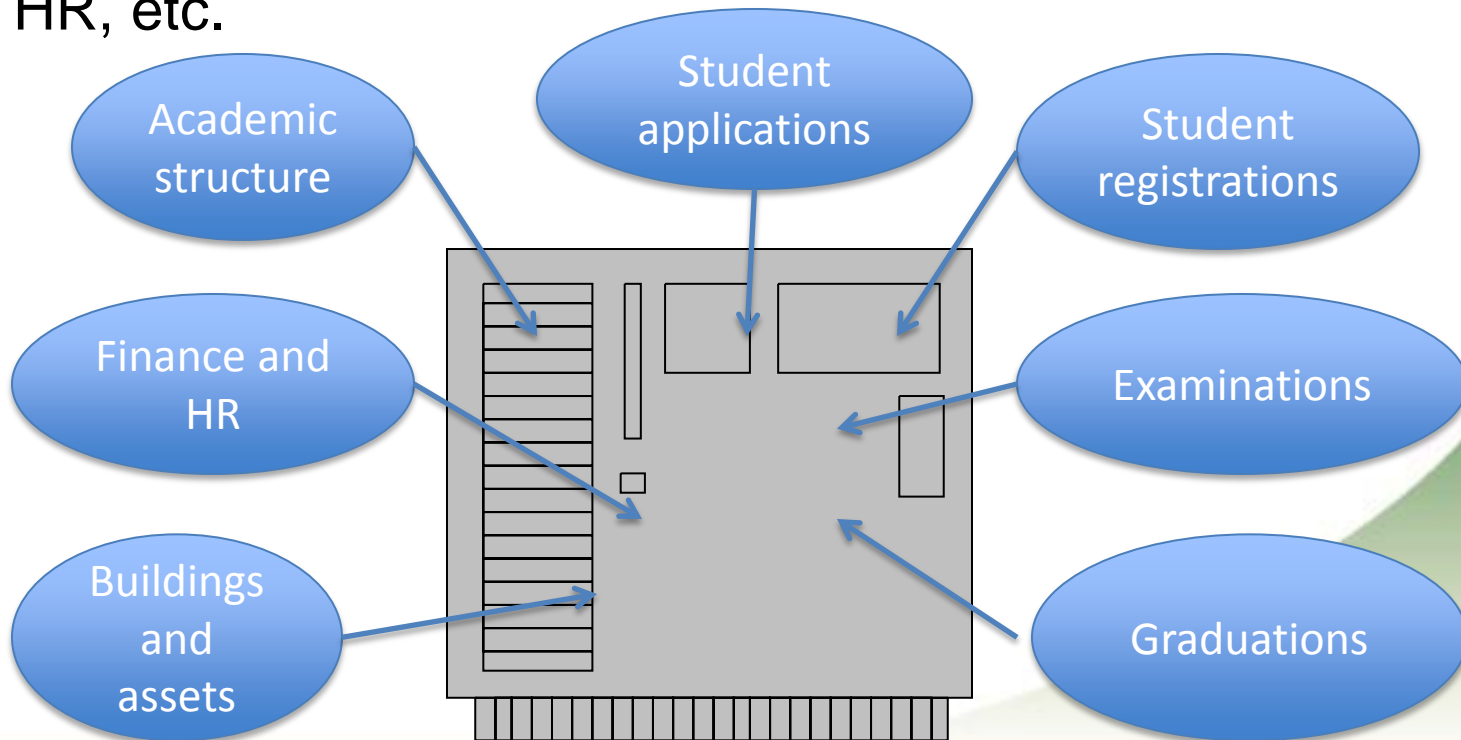
Department of Higher Education and Training

HEMIS BACKGROUND

SAPSE – The South African Post Secondary Education reporting system contained only aggregated datasets. Institutions would submit data tables in a specific format to the Department who would then validate the data and return to the Universities and Technikons for correction. This process was extremely time consuming and often meant considerable delays in finalising the data. Data from 1986 to 1998
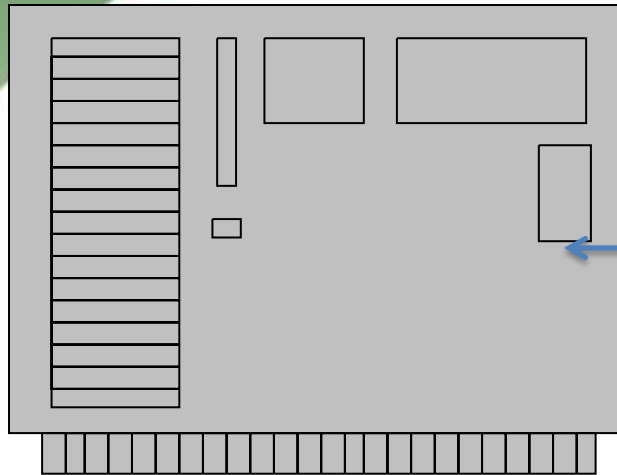
HEMIS - Higher Education Management Information System is a unit record database and enables validation and cleaning of data to be done at the Universities before submitting to the Department. Reduced the time lags and enables the DHET work with the data in many ways. Data from 1999 to 2013.

HEMIS BACKGROUND

Institutions have a production database which contains information on:- the academic structure, student applications, student registrations, examinations, finance, HR, etc.

HEMIS BACKGROUND

- Data extracted from production system according to specifications compiled by DHET, validated by Universities, corrected on their production system

DATA COLLECTED

HEMIS comprises 4 modules:-

The student database is comprised of 6 tables:-

Student file (STUD), Course file (CRSE), Qualification file (QUAL)
Classification of subject matter and qualification file (CESM), Credit file (CRED), Course Registration file (CREG)

The staff database is comprised of 2 tables:-

Staff Profile file (PROF), Staff FTE file (SFTE)

The space database is comprised of 3 tables:-

Campus file (CAMP), Building file (BLDG),Room file (ROOM)

The Post doc database is comprised of 1 table relating to the properties of post doctoral reseach fellows

STUDENT AND STAFF DATA

The student module contains information pertaining to the qualifications, courses, and their credit values for which students have enrolled. The demographics of the student body such as race, gender, nationality, age. Universities have to indicate a student's major field of study. The student module also carries information on whether students have graduated or not and for which qualification types. It does not carry contact details of students.

The staff module contains information on the personnel categories of staff at the universities, the qualification types of the instruction/research professionals, the ftes for these staff and the programmes the staff are linked to, that is whether it is instruction, research, administration, etc. It also carries the demographics of the staff body. It also does not contain SA IDs nor contact details of the staff members.

SUBMISSION OF HEMIS DATA

Submission dates for student and staff data.

The due dates for the student submissions are:

End Oct for reporting year, e.g Oct 2014 for 2014 academic year (only headcount data).

End April for 2nd submission of student data e.g. 30 April 2015 for 2014 student data. This data should include preliminary graduate data.

31 July for final audited data, e.g. 31 July 2015 for 3rd and final audited student data for the 2014 academic year.

WHY THE DELAY? The academic calendar is Jan to Dec each year with supplementary exams being written in Jan/Feb of the following year and Post graduate exams in Feb. In April/May and even in June graduates are identified, then the data must be audited.

The due dates for the staff submissions are:-

End February for the 1st submission of staff (Staff employed from Jan to December of the reporting year) and 31 July along with the student data for the final audited data.

PURPOSE OF HEMIS DATA

HEMIS data are collected for funding and planning purposes in particular for steering the system and for monitoring the sector.

The data must be audited because it is used for subsidy allocations. Auditing is done by the universities external auditors based on guidelines provided by the DHET

DISSEMINATION OF HEMIS DATA

The finalisation of the dataset requires HEMIS staff to check all the data against the audit reports submitted, where errors are found, universities are required to re-submit and re-audit their data.

For noting the subsidies are allocated year n + 2. Which means that the students enrolled this year will only generate the subsidy for the 2016/17 financial year.

Dissemination of data can only be done once the data are loaded to national database in HEMIS (due to the size of the data sets and the network connections this can take at least a week). Thereafter the reports are generated which can also take at least a week. All data must be regarded as preliminary until officially published, which is December each year according to the DHET data dissemination standards.

THANK YOU