FIRST National Assessment Database

WISER II Conference

http://first.ecoinformatics.org/

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Goals of the FIRST Database

- Developing faculty expertise in assessing student learning
- Evaluating innovations based on analyses of these data
- Support data-driven instructional decision making
- Storing, searching and classifying assessment data
- Support analyses of the data
- Initial pilot project with biology, but will support all STEM disciplines

FIRST Database Functionality

- Upload, store, search, download faculty assessment items
- Store meta-data about assessments
 - Scoring rubrics
 - o Content descriptors (e.g., evolution, cell signaling)
 - o Cognitive descriptors (e.g., Blooms taxonomy)
- Upload, de-identify, store, search student responses
- Upload, de-identify, store student demographic data
- Join and query datasets
- Share assessments and data with wider science education community

How is FIRST similar to DANSER?

- Both store assessments and student responses
- Both support analysis of student performance and comparisons across courses, institutions
- Both encourage faculty to use assessment as part of instructional design

How is FIRST different from DANSER?

- Not a CMS: students do not login to FIRST to take assessments
 - o Faculty upload assessments and student responses
- Faculty upload any assessments and data they wish
 - o Faculty determine what data to upload
 - o Faculty determine what data to make available to others

How can you help?

- Provide us sample assessments, metadata and data formats
- Provide "use cases" of the types of data and analyses you would want to be able to use.
- Provide suggestions for disciplinary content frameworks
- Contact Mark Urban-Lurain or Diane Ebert-May for more information