Navigating a Dashboard: A Scenario & Walkthrough

Purpose

To provide a quick look at a use case that utilizes multiple Academic Planning and Budget (APB) dashboards and various functionality. Note examples are pulled mostly from internal dashboards. We recommend you follow along and do the exercise as you read through this walkthrough. To gain access to the internal dashboards, *request access* by emailing apb_ir@ponet.ucla.edu.

Scenario

You work in the political science department and potential donors are asking questions about what data is available for transfer students.

You start at https://apb.ucla.edu/campus-statistics/overview, and decide to focus your attention on historical enrollments, degrees awarded, and graduation rates.
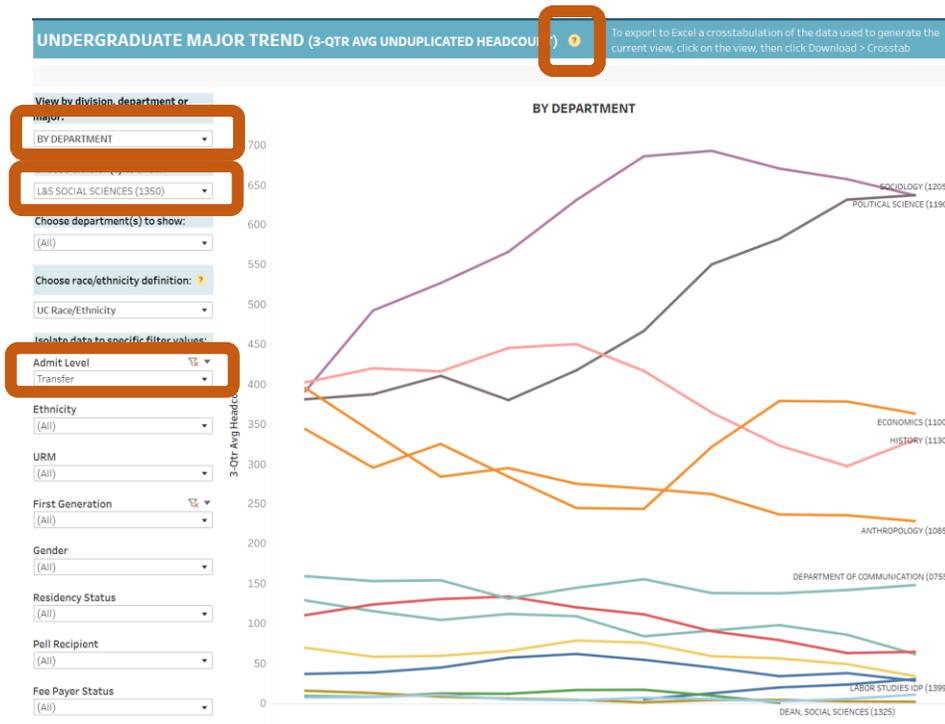
Enrollment

You navigate to **Enrollment** in the Broad Category of the overview page at the link above. Then to **High Level Trends** in the table below the tree map to see what the status of transfer enrollment is over time. You change Student Level to **Undergraduate**, and note transfer student enrollments over time.
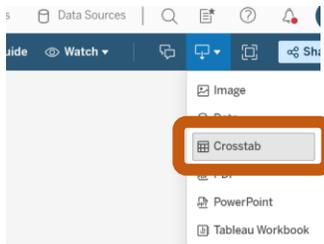
You then navigate to **Enrollment** in the Broad Category of the overview page at the link above. Then to **Major Enrollments** in the table below the tree map.

You change the following drop-down menus on the dashboard and hover over the yellow question mark to understand "unduplicated headcount." (Note that double or triple majors result in decimal values for enrollment because one person is split across multiple majors).

- View division, department, or major: **Department**
- Choose division(s) to show: **L&S Social Sciences (1350)**
- Admit Level: **Transfer**

To download the data, you go to the top right of the screen and choose to download the data as a **crosstab**. You select **Excel** and click the **download** button.

What You Learn

Though transfer student enrollment is generally increasing at UCLA over time, political science is the fastest growing major among recent transfer students within the division with one of the longest standing trends.

Degrees Awarded

You navigate to **Degrees** in the Broad Category of the overview page at the link above. Then to **Custom Degree Awarded Reporting** in the table below the tree map.

You change the following drop-down menus on the dashboard:

- View by: **By Year**
- Program Type: **Undergraduate**
- Department: **Political Science (1190)**
- Split 1: **Admit Status**

You compare this to the division by:

- Removing the political science filter by clicking the filter x button

- Filtering by Division: **L&S Social Sciences**

What You Learn

Degrees awarded to transfer students in political science are increasing while degrees awarded to transfers in the division are rather stable over the past five years.

Graduation Rates

You navigate to **Graduation** (in Blue-Green) in the Broad Category of the overview page at the link above. Then to **Custom Graduation Rate Reporting** in the table below the tree map.

You change the following drop-down menus on the dashboard:

- Choose Admit Level: **Transfer**
- Division: **L&S Social Sciences**
- Department: **Political Science**

You click the filter x button on Department to compare Political Science to the rest of the division.

You become curious and add Pell Recipient to Split 1. You hover over the orange and blue lines to gain insight.

Over the past five year, political science graduates transfer students at the 2 years more often than the Division of Social Sciences as a whole. Additionally, political science graduates transfer students who are Pell Recipients at lower rates than their non-Pell transfer peers.

Full Circle: What You Share with Donors

Though transfer student enrollment is generally increasing at UCLA over time, political science is the fastest growing major among recent transfer students within the social sciences with one of the longest standing upward trends. Similarly degrees awarded to transfer students in political science are increasing while degrees awarded to transfers in the division are rather stable over the past five years. These facts show increasing demand for political science as a major among transfer students with a social science interest.

The political science department graduates transfer students at better 2-year rates than the division; however, political science could use some assistance supporting transfer students who are Pell Recipients who take longer to graduate. After talking with more than 20 transfer Pell recipients in interviews or small groups, investments in x, y, and z are recommended to best support this community.

Helpful Tips

Some things to note when interacting with Academic Planning and Budget dashboards:

- *The difference between a split and filter. A filter shows you data for the attribute you select only (e.g. only transfer students) whereas a split cuts the data by all attributes in a category (e.g. Pell and non-Pell recipients) so you can more easily compare. You need not use all filters or all splits – just the ones that will help you answer your question.*
- *Yellow question marks provide useful help text about data elements.*
- *Hovering over charts or graphs at different data points often provides more information about the data, which is especially useful when there is no legend.*