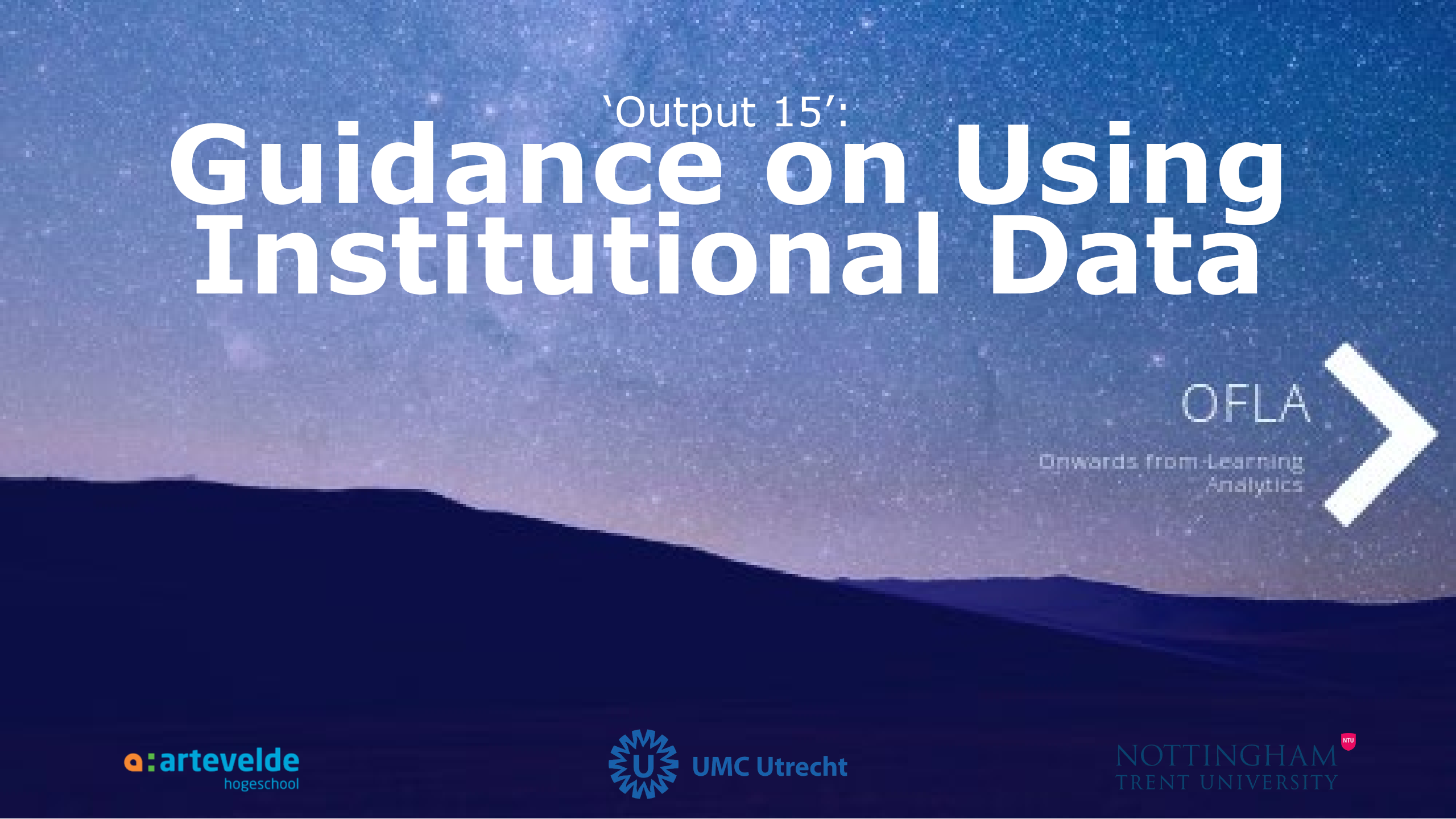
‘Output 15’:

Guidance on Using Institutional Data



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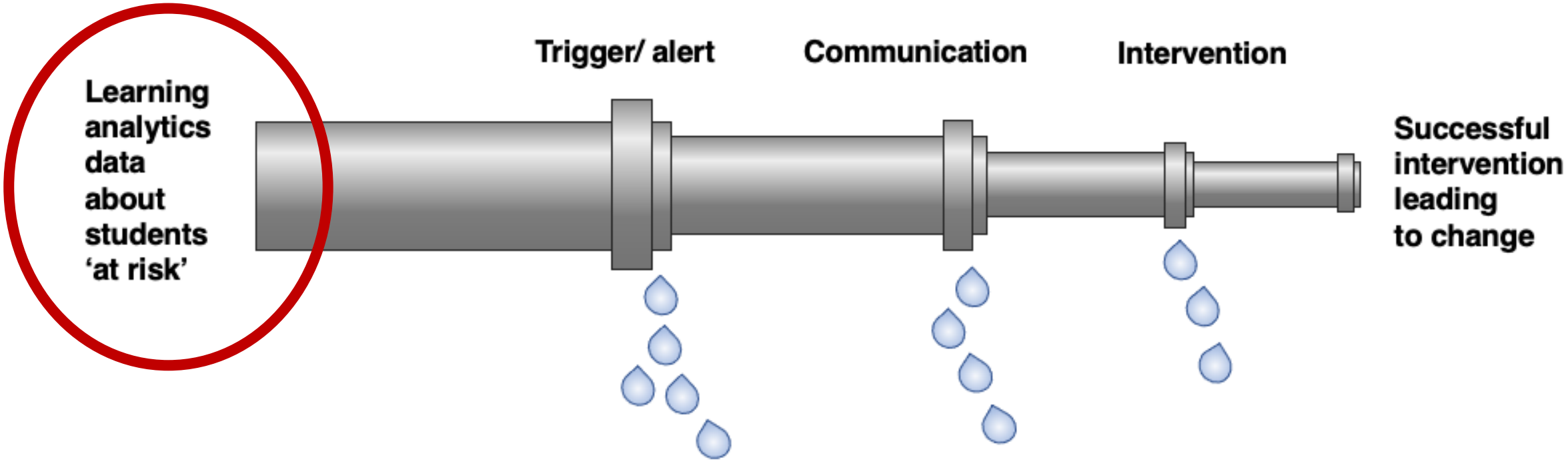
Our three stage model

OFLA
Onwards from Learning Analytics



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Where do you start?

The ‘Why’ – Why are we doing this?

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We recommend that you consider:

1. Outcomes, and why a learning analytics platform is needed

2. Why the user needs to use this system

3. The extent to which decision-making is determined by the system or by the user

4. The data literacy of users and stakeholders throughout

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The ‘What’ – What data is to be used?

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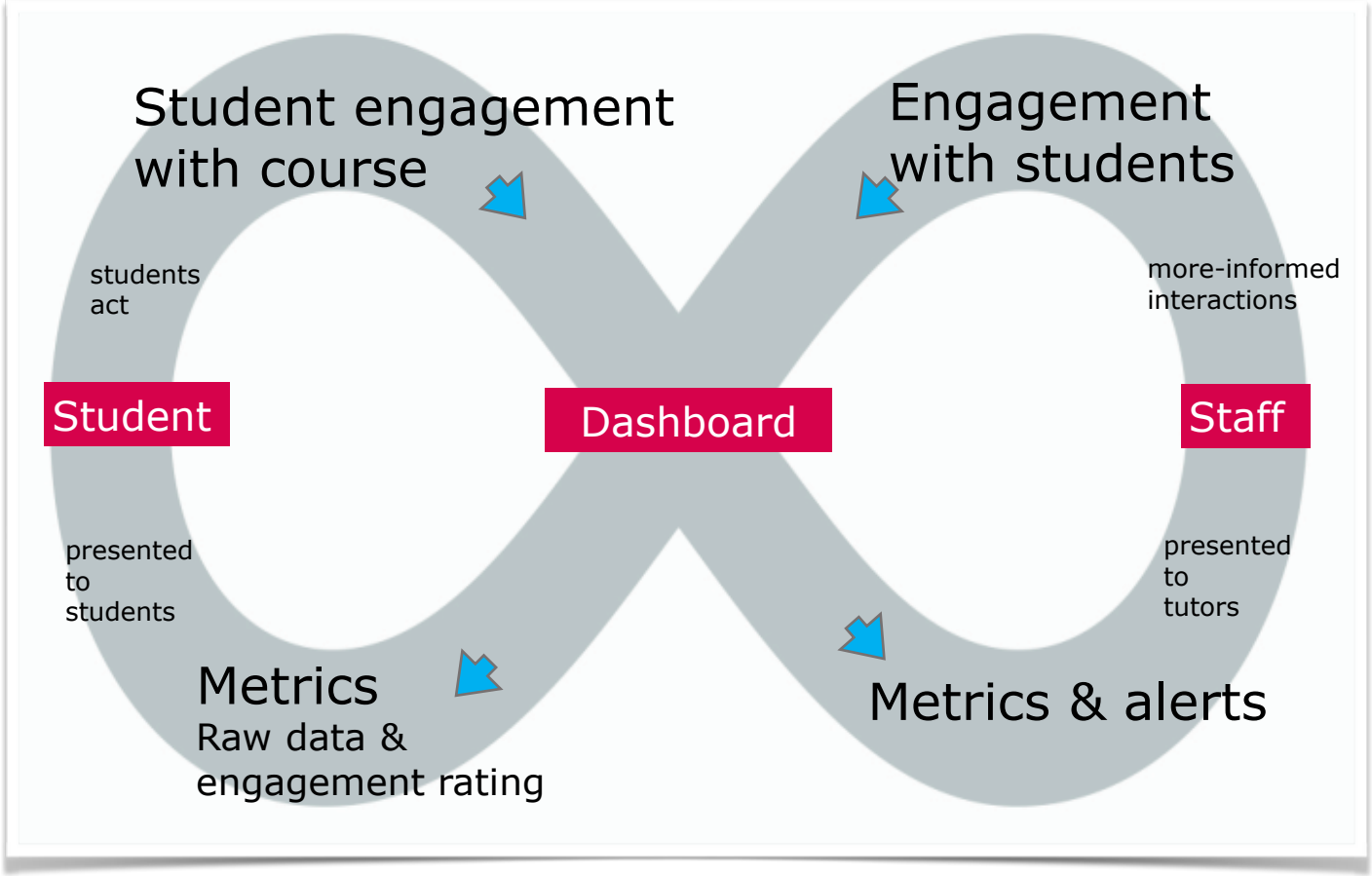
We recommend that you consider:

1. The specific use of dynamic data over static data
2. How data points are chosen and reviewed before use.
3. The amount of data points used are measured and proportionate.



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The ‘How’ – How is data presented?

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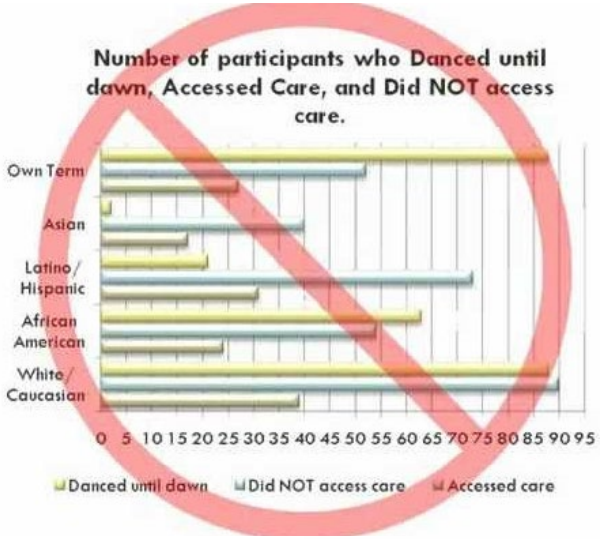
We recommend that you consider:

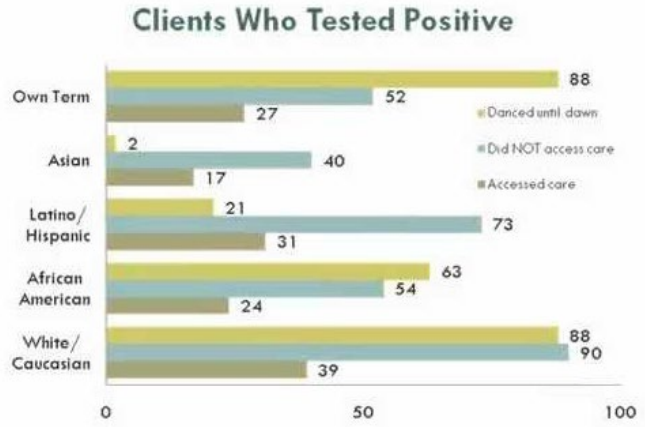
1. How you will present the data, to inform how it is captured and stored

2. How complex data can be understood

3. How you access data during the intervention

4. How to present data with appropriate context





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The ‘Where’ –
Where is it from and where is it held?

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1. Understand the data pathways fully

2. Review and/ or amending the original data sources first

3. Assess where data is stored and/ or amended on your system

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The ‘When’ – When is the data presented?

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We recommend that you consider:

1. The advantages and disadvantages of ‘live’ data vs a ‘period review’

2. When an alert is generated throughout a year…

3. …and when an alert is generated for the student

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The ‘Who’ – Who is involved throughout

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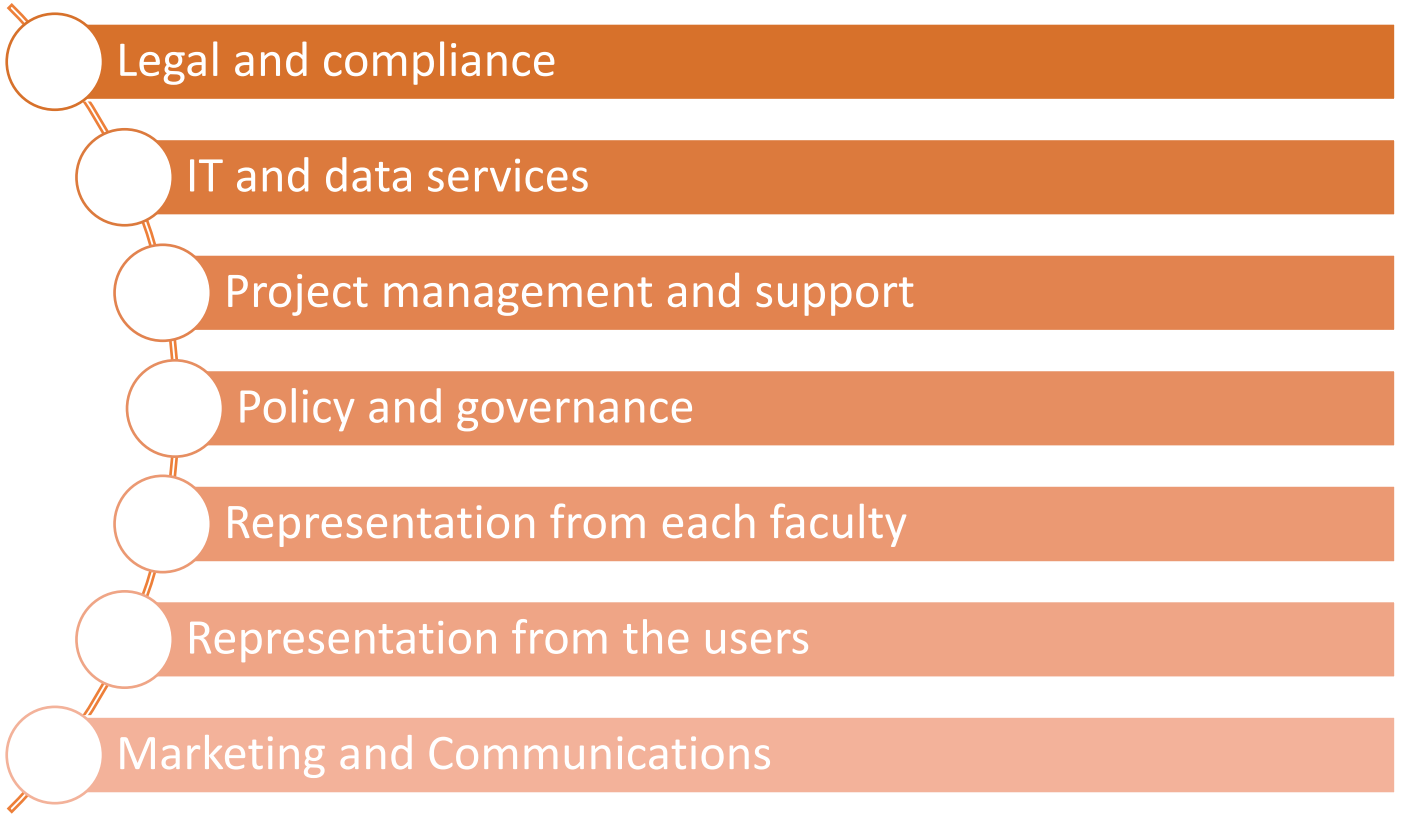
We recommend that you consider:

1. Who you may need on a project team
2. The benefits of internal vs. external providers
3. How you consult with the users at the start and throughout

As well as researchers, **consider**…:



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What next?
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Considerations going forward

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1. Ensure ongoing support: Data systems have a natural ‘entropy’
2. Maintaining data literacy is ESSENTIAL!
3. Prioritise reliability: Trust in the data can be easily lost
4. Guarantee you are consulted with institution-wide data system changes

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Considerations going forward

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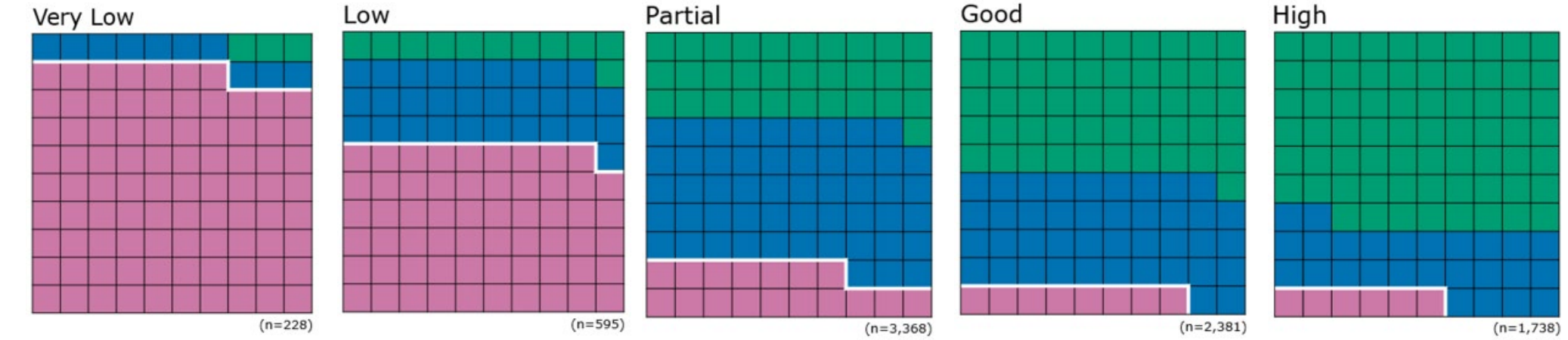
Strong data systems can be predictive when done right…



…but your system will never be ‘finished’!

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Thank you for listening!