Academic Program Review

Ensuring Quality
in the Present and Future

What has been your experience with Academic Program Review?

Purpose of APRs

- An in-depth examination of
  - Curriculum
    - Is it current?
    - Does it meet national standards (if any exist)?
    - When was it last revised? Why?
  - Assessment of student performance and achievement
  - Resource evaluation
    - Student support (library, advising), faculty (FT & PT), space, equipment
  - Strengths/weaknesses
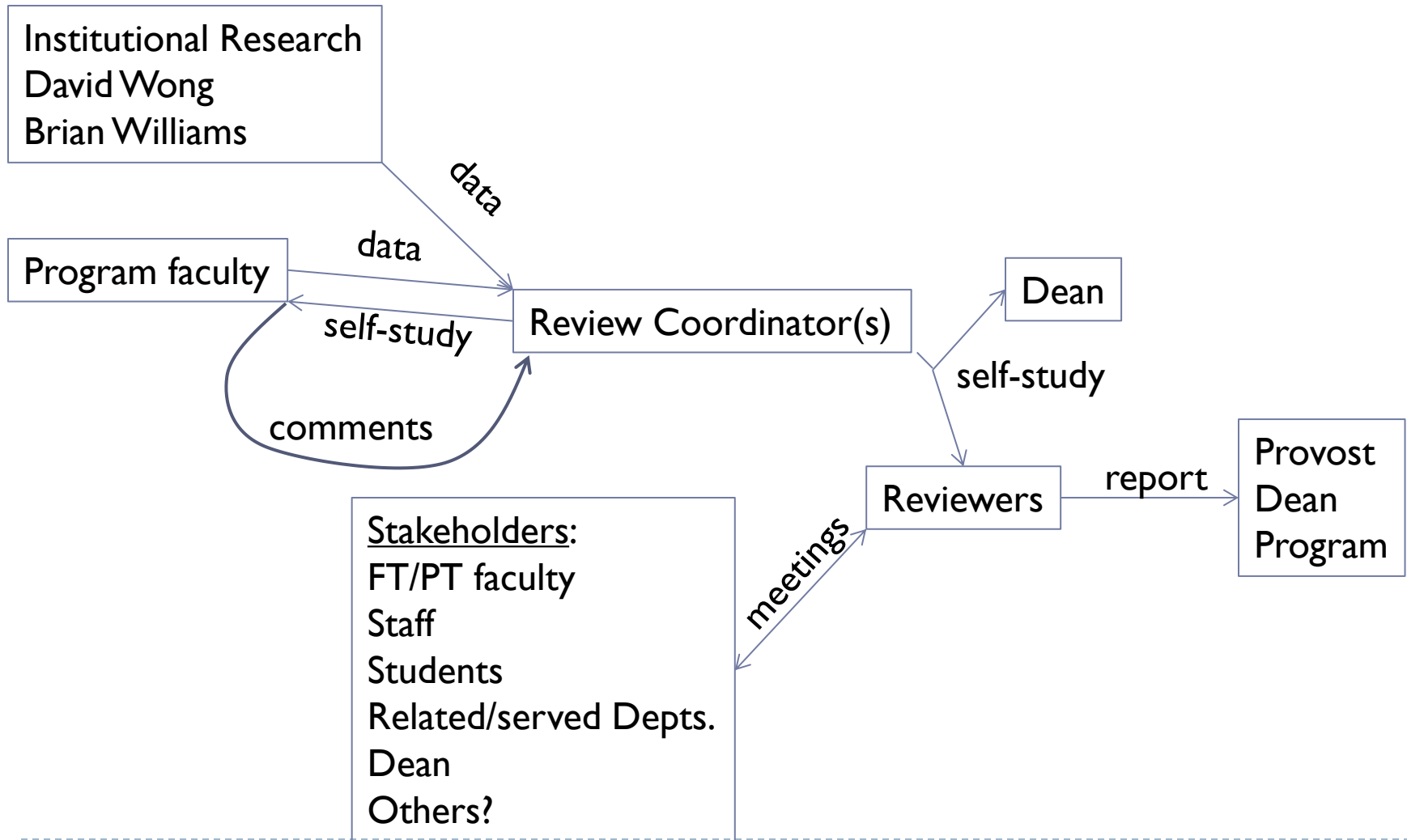 - Improvement of educational quality and strategies to ensure it
  - ACTION PLAN

Myths, misconceptions, and mistakes

▸ Program review = program elimination
  ▸ Every program will do it, so elimination cannot be the motivation

▸ Invite your friends to come pat you on the back
  ▸ Careful, critical review by external reviewers is the best kind of support for your program

▸ Faculty will only ask for more faculty, money, etc.
  ▸ Maybe. . .but a justification with *DATA* is needed to make these arguments

▸ Nothing happens to "close the loop"
  ▸ The Dean (new Dean if not completed yet = chance to shine!?!) and Provost will see all programs over ~1 year. There will clearly be some follow up

▸ Isolated exercise-will not impact anyone else
  ▸ The student educational experience is at the heart of this process. EVERYTHING we do is for the students!

▸

The pathway

Institutional Research
David Wong
Brian Williams

data

Program faculty

data

self-study

comments

Review Coordinator(s)

Dean

self-study

Reviewers

report

meetings

Provost
Dean
Program

Stakeholders:
FT/PT faculty
Staff
Students
Related/served Depts.
Dean
Others?

Why an Aspirational Reviewer

▸ You want to get better. Why not ask directions from someone who "lives" in the area?

▸ My experience at Marymount University:

  ▸ Administration

    ▸ How to be distinctive?

    ▸ Can credit hours be reduced? How can students minor?

    ▸ What resources (human or other) are missing or needed?

  ▸ Faculty

    ▸ Advising issues (now professional advisors)-advocate for move back?

    ▸ Do our faculty expertise match our student population?

  ▸ Students

    ▸ PT in labs, FT in lecture = total disconnect of content

    ▸ Courses that they would like to take

    ▸ Curriculum navigation

The Case study

- Break into groups:

    - Administration suggestions

    - Reviewer suggestions