



# TechD and IBM Cognos Let a Major Public Research University Redefine the Process

**A public-research university in Philadelphia chose IBM Cognos as their enterprise business intelligence solution across institutional advancement, finance, human resources, and student records. They faced a hard deadline to decommission their legacy reporting tools. Meeting this deadline would provide cost savings on licensing, maintenance and support for outdated tools. TechD implemented Cognos reporting and dashboards—allowing IT personnel to streamline their reporting processes. They analyzed the reporting process, finding redundant reports run at inappropriate times. University IT can now better utilize computing cycles. Licenses and usage models have also been improved, thanks to common platform for all reporting and the importation of legacy data into Cognos.**

## THE CHALLENGE

A Philadelphia university in chose IBM Cognos to replace their legacy reporting tools across several divisions. These tools were used by institutional advancement, finance, HR, and student records. They faced a deadline to decommission the older tools that would provide significant cost savings on licensing, maintenance, and support. The university wanted to schedule reports after their nightly database refresh. Previously, the university had no way to join these reports together--or to anticipate and predict their reporting needs.

## THE SOLUTION

TechD analyzed the university's process, finding redundant reports run at inappropriate times. They implemented Cognos reporting and dashboards--allowing IT personnel to streamline their reporting processes. TechD then joined these processes to a unified enterprise scheduler to kick-off reporting after nightly refresh. In addition, TechD analyzed the university's license and usage models--as well as the performance of the Cognos environment. In the process, they were able to identify a number of unneeded users--as well as non-users of licenses.

## THE BENEFITS

Thanks to TechD and Cognos, the university can now better utilize its computing cycles. Licenses and usage models have also been improved, due to a common platform for all reporting and the importation of legacy data. The improvement is substantial. An audit that took place over six months has allowed TechD to optimize the university's system usage, show appropriate license usage, and eliminate redundant reports. In addition, customized training for over 100 team members has reduced the university's long-term training costs.



The client is a comprehensive public research university in Philadelphia, PA with more than 37,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students in over 400 academic degree programs at seven local campuses and remote sites in five countries. Many of their programs--including their schools of health, law and business--are nationally recognized.