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**2016**

**#UCaliforniaData**

# **The UC Information Center: How Did They Do It?**

**Ola Popoola**

**Director – Reporting and Analytics**

**University of California, Office of the President**

# Agenda

Planned presentation outcomes

Demo – UC Information Center

IRAP mission, vision, needs and goals

Development approach

Technologies employed

What worked and what didn't

Future plans

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**What can I expect to get  
out of this?**

# Planned Presentation Outcomes

## **Introduction to the UC Information Center:**

Discover a Tableau powered website that provides key information about UC  
Get ideas on how to build an information center site of your own

## **Tips on understanding your user base:**

Find out what they need to know  
Figure out what they already know

## **Developing a vision for your information center:**

Collaborate with your team and find out what kinds of stories you want to tell  
Start a culture of analytics at your organization

## **Putting the building blocks in place to make it happen:**

How to create a data infrastructure that is consistent, reliable and sustainable  
Have the right technology in place

# The UC Information Center

## Overview of Site Structure

### Demonstration of:

#### Storyboard

Affordability Storyboard

<http://universityofcalifornia.edu/infocenter/uc-remains-affordable-undergraduates>

#### Dashboard

California Community College New Enrollments at UC

<https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/infocenter/california-community-college-enrollments-uc>

#### Data Table

Admissions by Source School

<http://universityofcalifornia.edu/infocenter/admissions-source-school>

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# **Mission, Vision, Needs and Goals**

# IRAP Mission

- **Trusted source of information:**
  - Provide evidence-based analyses and reports
  - Serve as UC's think tank that leverages its unique position to access and analyze data across all ten UC campuses
- **Provide quick response to questions about UC:**
  - Respond in a timely, accurate and consistent manner to requests for information
  - Deliver support and guidance
- **Furnish consistent and reliable information:**
  - Deliver regular proactive research results that help drive and inform policy decisions
  - Provide analytics and reporting capabilities that stay current on UC's changing environment



# Vision



BUDGET, FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

**Leverage** reporting capabilities that support compliance with internal and external requirements  
**Analytics** for recruitment and retention



UC CAMPUSES

**Provide** analyses that support and guide enrollment planning, degree achievement, policy creation and revision, statewide higher education studies, and UC operations.



STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATORS

**Demonstrate** UC's contribution to California's and the nation's culture and economy  
**Highlight** the value of public education by reporting the measures that demonstrate that value  
**Show** that UC is meeting its objectives and using resources efficiently



UCOP LEADERSHIP & STAFF

**Support** UC's leadership role by providing analytics based on the analyses of data across all ten UC campuses, in comparison to other segments of California's public higher education community and peer institutions nationwide  
**Reveal** issues that are critical to UC and public higher education through proactive analyses and research



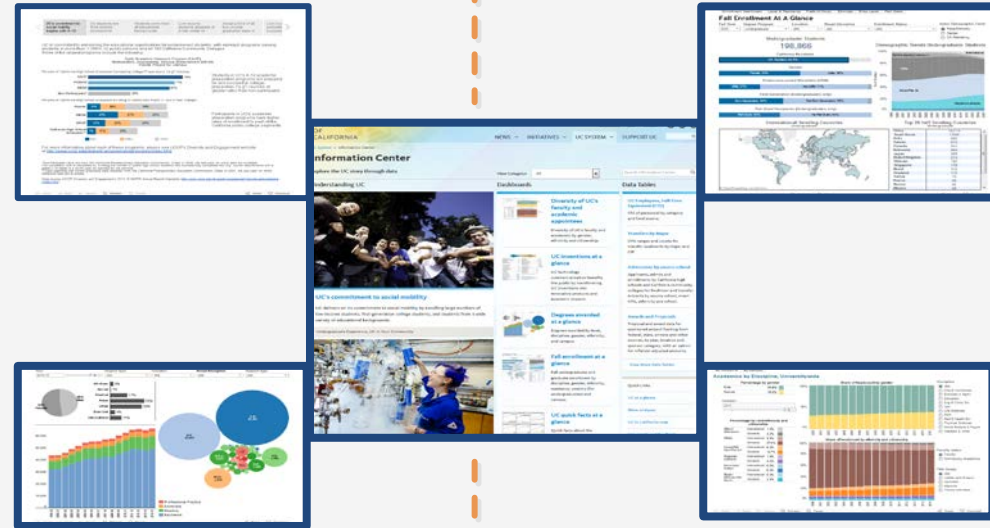
STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS & COUNSELORS

**Give** useful information to prospective students on how to gain admission into UC  
**Present** data around graduation outcomes by major for enrolled students  
**Equip** teachers and counselors with facts that will help guide them in better informing their students about access to UC



GENERAL PUBLIC

**Display** information about the University of California and the community in which it operates  
**Furnish** evidence that shows how UC plays a major role in fulfilling dreams, and contributing to the economic development of the state and the nation.



# The Key Needs

Access

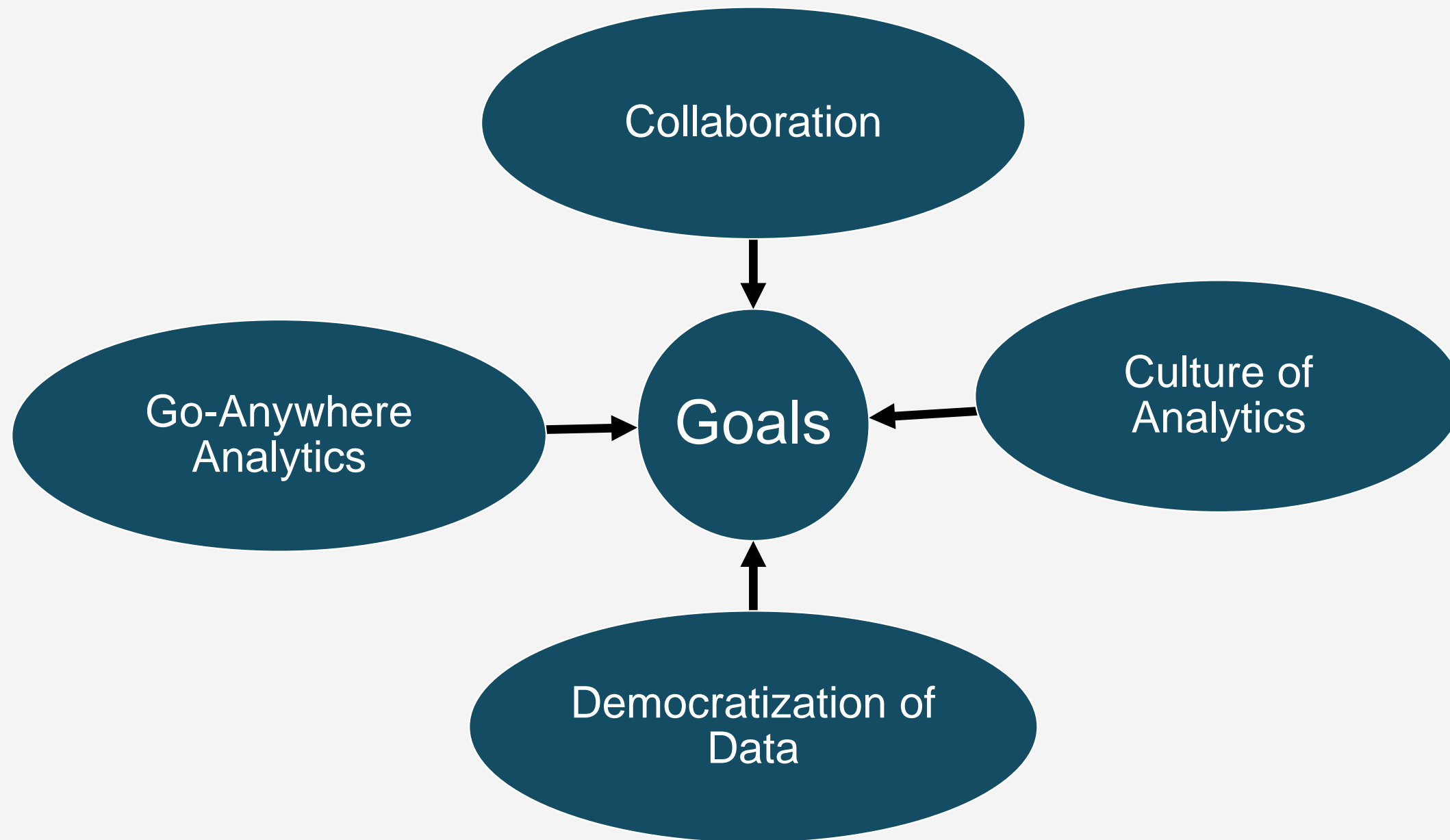
Availability

Performance

Accountability  
and  
transparency

Data  
consistency

# Goals



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**Let's talk about  
technology...**

# Development Approach

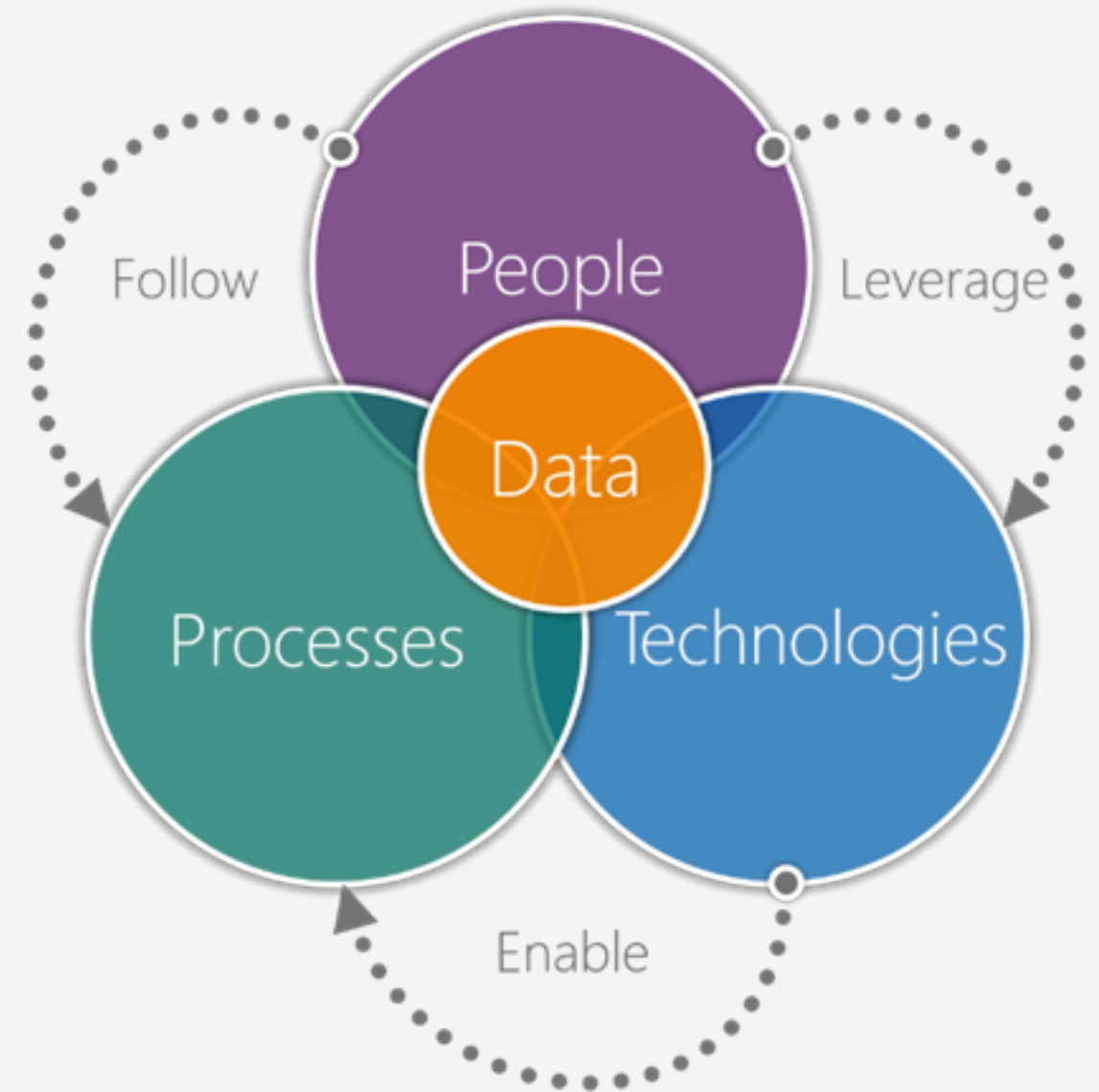
## Four component approach:

**People**

**Data**

**Processes**

**Technologies**



# Technologies Employed

Technologies used are:

Tableau Desktop Professional

Tableau Server

Drupal Content Management System

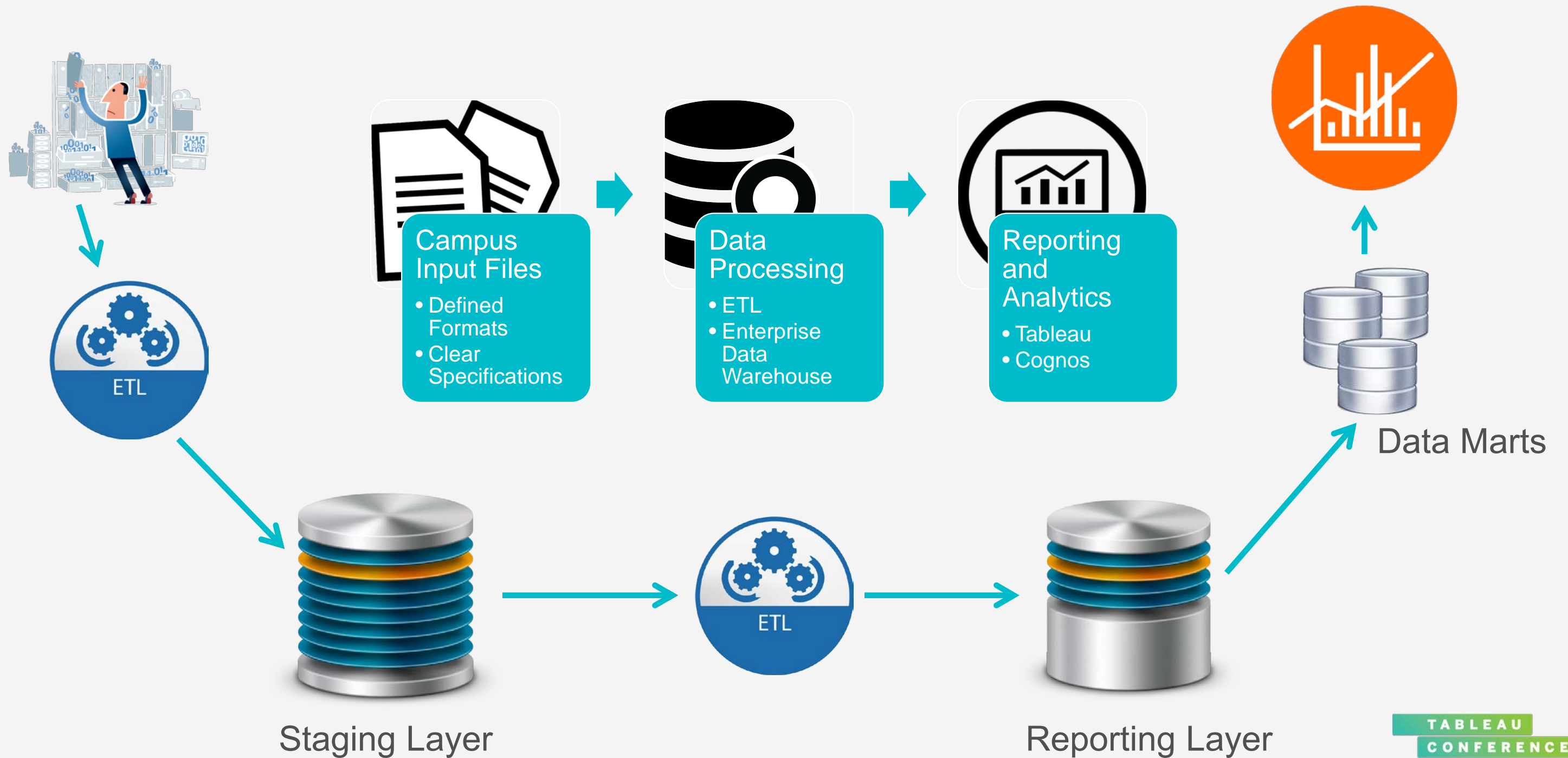
SAS

IBM DB2

IBM DataStage



# Data Infrastructure



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# What worked and what didn't



# Keys to Success

**Clear purpose**

**Clear goals and objectives**

**Strong sponsor engagement**

**Collaboration - Promoting team cohesiveness**

**Communication**

**Frequent core group meetings**

**Project management**

**Celebrating each milestone**

# Clear Purpose

## Find your sweet spot

Why does your organization need this?

What matters most to the organization?

Who will the information center serve?

What stories can you tell using data?

How do individuals find their place?

How can you define common purpose?



# Clear Goals & Objectives

## Start your road trip with a plan

State clear begin and end objectives

Tighten goal alignment and goal visibility

Define specific roles for each individual

Have a clear communication path

Have contingencies in place for changes

Implement an ongoing feedback process



# Strong Sponsor Engagement

**Get executive sponsorship!**

**Sponsor support = project success**

**Secures project resources**

**Champions the project at executive level**

**Clarifies and aligns expectations**

**Identifies what the project must achieve**

**Ensures that expectations are being met**



# Collaboration

**Together for a common purpose**

**Sense of belonging to a working entity**

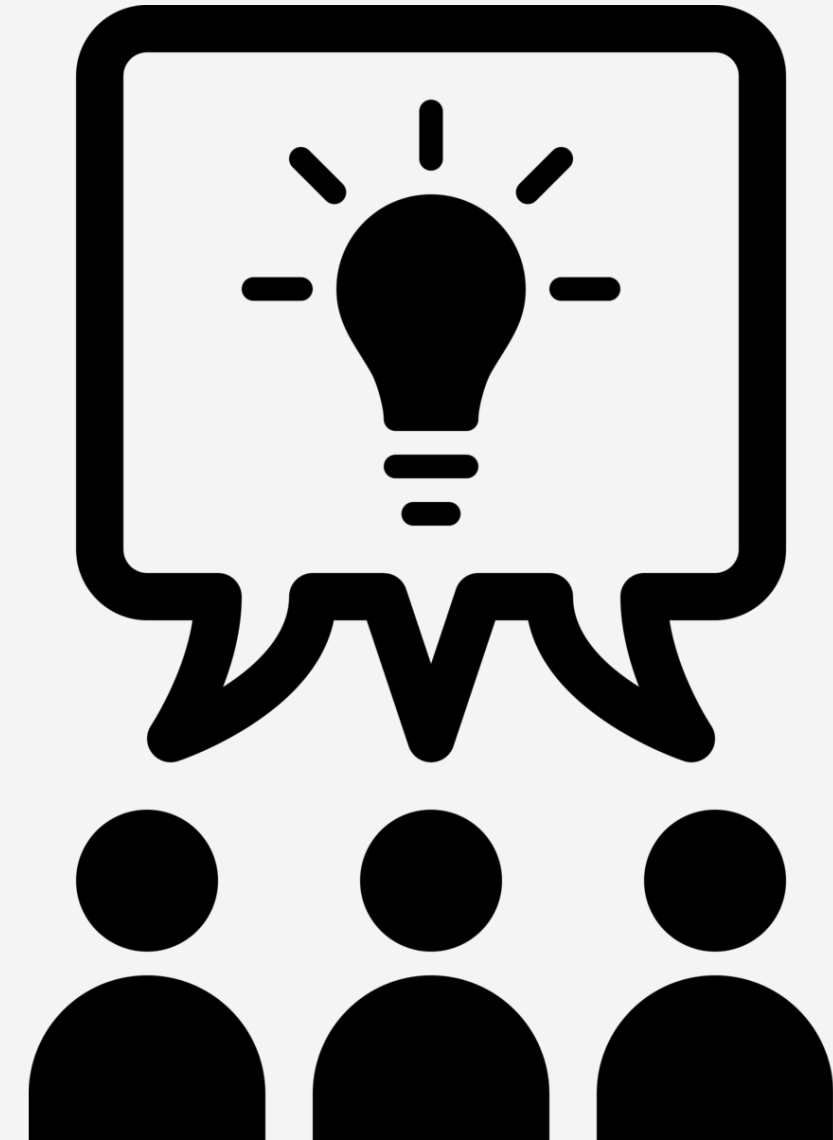
**Gain consensus in problem solving**

**Encourage active participation**

**Build reciprocity through sharing ideas**

**Increase team connectivity/cohesiveness**

**Co-operate to achieve innovation**



# Communication

**Communicate for motivation and productivity**

**Effective communication = success**

**Create a safe environment**

**Be culturally sensitive**

**Provide constructive feedback**

**Assign tasks directly and clearly**

**Make the work fun**



# Core Group Meetings

**Meet regularly to review artefacts**

**Meet to flesh out stories to be told**

**Decide who build what viz**

**Come up with design standards**

**Review vizzes in development**

**Provide feedback to each other**

**Provide support to one another**



# Sound Project Management

## Effective project management

Good project management pays off

Organize, schedule and delegate tasks

Clarify individual roles

Keep communication lines open

Manage project scope

Manage project risk





# Celebrate Each Milestone

**Celebrate every accomplishment**

**No achievement is too small!**

**Show your appreciation**

**Remind yourself of the progress made**

**Track and document your milestones**

**Review your milestones**

**Make individuals happy about work done**



# What Didn't Work

## Pitfalls to avoid

**Poor investment in data infrastructure**

**Rigid operational style guide**

**Using ad-hoc data files**

**Skimping on testing and validation**

**Cross-functional team management**



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# Our next steps

# Future Plans

## What we are doing next

Tableau Server as a shared service

Creating a private UC Information Center

Integrating Tableau and D3.js

Migration of Accountability Report



**“The goal is to turn data into information, and information into insight.”**

**Carly Fiorina**

Former Chair and Executive President, Hewlett Packard Co.

**“If we have data, let’s look at data. If all we have are opinions, let’s go with mine.”**

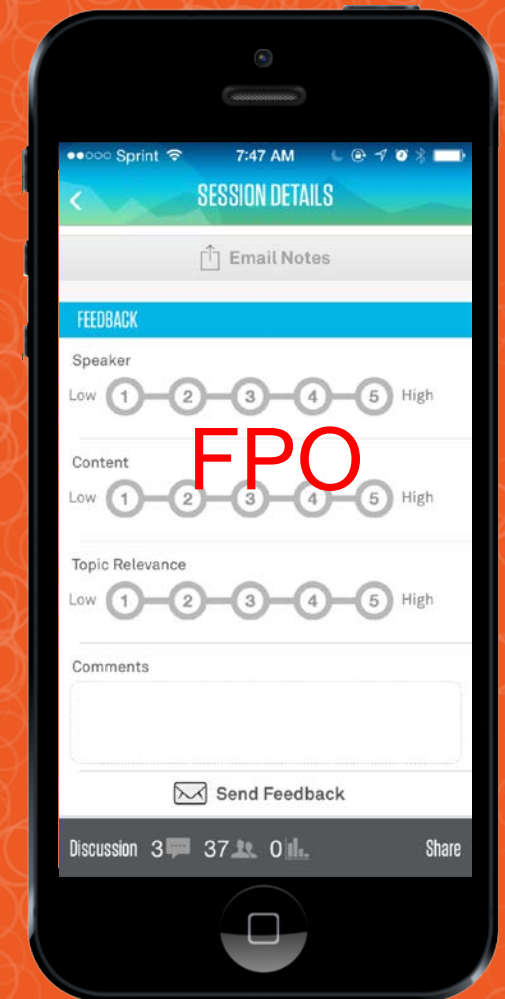
**Jim Barksdale**  
Former CEO, Netscape

**“The greatest value of a picture  
is when it forces us to notice  
what we never expected to see.”**

**John Wilder Turkey**  
Mathematician, Exploratory Data Analysis (1977)



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**Ola Popoola**

**ola.popoola@ucop.edu**